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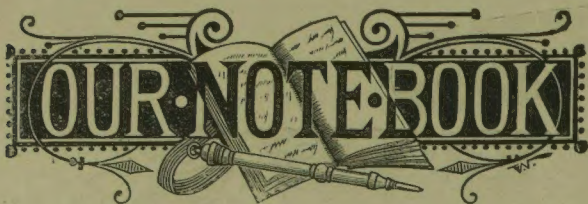
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"A soldier was brought to the Prince by some of his comrades, who asked that the Cross of Valour might be given to him, and lifted him in their arms, with loud hurrahs."

THE WAR IN THE EAST: PRINCE ALEXANDER DECORATING BULGARIAN TROOPS AFTER THE BATTLE OF SLIVNITZA.

FROM A SKETCH SUPPLIED BY M. BERNARD, BY SPECIAL PERMISSION OF PRINCE ALEXANDER.



The general election has presented some curious results, but none more curious than the exchange that has taken place between Liberals and Conservatives, so that the former have become the representatives of the counties, the latter of the boroughs.

The return of a member is generally, and not unreasonably, considered to indicate what are the political opinions of the electors who return him. But, on the other hand, it is almost certain that in some, even in many, cases the candidates have been indebted rather to personal than to political considerations. For instance, it seems probable that Mr. Burdett-Coutts would have been successful, whatever had been his political opinions, for the sake of Lady Coutts; Lord Charles Beresford, for the sake of "The Condor" and of many a gallant deed; Mr. Henry Chaplin, for the sake of "The Hermit" (who, as the French say, "unites all suffrages"); Commander Bethell, for the sake of the memories connected with the Bethells, of Rise, Holderness, who, more than a century ago, were popular as landlords and as owners of racehorses, in the days of "The Bethell Arabian" and of "The Ruler," who won the Leger in 1780. It is a mistake to suppose that a vote always implies political conviction; men will vote against their political convictions for sheer weariness of the name and fame of an Aristides, or for the mere personal liking which they cannot help feeling for a Palmerston.

It is so gratifying to learn that the British authority in Burmah enjoys the support of the Buddhist "Archbishop," that it may seem ungrateful and invidious to inquire how his Grace comes by his title. Is he Archbishop of Burmah or of Mandalay? Is he appointed by a *congé d'élire*? Is *nolo episcopari* expected of him? There is, however, good Roman Catholic authority for bestowing the title upon the Buddhist chief pastor; for a missionary, in recording a miracle, consisting of a voyage across a river upon a clock, wrought by the Grand Lama, styles him the *Bishop* of Tibet.

"Dover House," by the accident of Lord Salisbury being so well lodged in Arlington-street, and not being First Lord of the Treasury, seems likely to become permanently the official residence of the Secretary of State for Scotland; although in the original plan for the new public offices it was understood that it should be set apart for the Prime Minister. The house, which is much altered from its original design, stands a few yards to the north of the ancient gate to the palace of Whitehall, designed by Holbein for Henry VIII. The land seems to have remained unoccupied until a comparatively late date in the eighteenth century, when a lease was granted to Sir Matthew Featherstonehaugh, who intrusted the design of his house to Payne, the architect. Some years later, it was rented by General Amherst, previous to his being sent to America to win back the revolted States; and by him sold to Lord Melbourne, who temporarily exchanged it with the Duke of York (Frederick) for the latter's house in Piccadilly. During the time of his Royal Highness's possession, the whole house was much altered, an Ionic portico and domed circular hall being added, from designs by Holland. This feature, and the screen of columns by which Carlton House was hidden, drew from Lord North the remark, "It would seem that the Duke of York has been sent to the Round House, and the Prince of Wales is put in the Pillory." After the Duke's removal to Portman-square, Lord Melbourne returned to his own house, which for many years was known as Melbourne House. On his death, it passed to Lady Dover, the widow of the author of a forgotten life of Frederick II., and a book of the "Man in the Iron Mask," whom he attempted to identify with Matthioli, an agent of the Duke of Parma.

Fancy tracing one's descent from a King of the Visigoths! To have "come over with the Conqueror" (and done nothing else) is considered a very fine thing in this country; but of the Zamoyiski, who lately married a Princess of the Two Sicilies, it is related that, though he only bears the title of Count, he belongs to one of the most ancient and most illustrious families of Poland, "the principal branch of the house of Sarynsz, which tradition traces to Sarus, King of the Visigoths, whence came by corruption the name it bears to this day." No wonder corruption set in; it generally does, when things are kept so long.

In General Chesney's "Narrative of the Euphrates Expedition" (1868) he prints a series of articles of inquiry respecting the Euphrates, drawn up by the late Mr. T. L. Peacock, of the India House, still better known as the friend of Shelley, and for his own writings. "This document," says General Chesney, "for its comprehensiveness, sagacity, and forethought, deserves to be made known"; and it seems to have been the *primum mobile* of the entire expedition. It is, however, omitted from his recent biography, although referred to in the text; and, as the Euphrates question is still pending, it may be worth while to reprint it. The points suggested for inquiry were:—"Information respecting the road to Scanderon to points in communication with India—i.e., from that place as well as from Latakia and Antioch, respectively, to Aleppo. From Aleppo to Bir, and to Beles, on the Euphrates. The number of days required to perform the journey by each route, distinguishing between a journey to be performed by travellers with attendants, and one by an express messenger. The comparative advantages of

one or other of these routes, both as regards the probable security of travelling by them, and the superior expedition to be obtained. Trade on the Euphrates; extent of it; in vessels or boats; their size and draught of water. At what point the navigation ceases. At what point (if any) below Beles it would be possible to procure wood in sufficient quantity for steam navigation. State of the tribes on the sides of the Euphrates; particularly the right side. To what point might a steam-vessel mount the Euphrates. State of the harbours of Latakia and Scanderon, and also of the mouth of the River Orontes. Route from Aleppo by the Great Desert to Bussorah, and also by the Little Desert to Bagdad. Information as to the number of days, means of obtaining dispatch, and general security for travellers."

When the annual statistics respecting the Salmon fishery of the Tweed and Teviot were made out for the fishing season just ended, it was stated that the increase in size, quantity, and quality is greater than has been recorded since 1835, and it is also satisfactorily proved that the number of diseased fish caught has very much decreased.

"What shadows we are, and what shadows we pursue!" was the exclamation of Burke, in referring to the sudden death of a candidate for Bristol; and a similar thought will have struck many a reader at the announcement of the equally sudden death, last week, of the richest man in the world. It would be folly to under-estimate the value of money. On the contrary, Charles Lamb was right in saying that enough is not as good as a feast; and that, while riches cannot purchase everything, they may add much to the enjoyment and usefulness of a man's life. But to make money-getting the main object of pursuit, to suppose that a man's "world" consists in his monetary success, is, perhaps, the stupidest of blunders. The game is not worth the candle, and, moreover, it is a game that cannot be won on a large scale without grave injury to others. The fame of dying a millionaire is not, therefore, the kind of fame a wise man will desire. There is such irony in the sudden descent from boundless wealth to nothingness!

The publication of a fresh volume of poems by Lord Tennyson, who is now in his seventy-seventh year, may be regarded as a phenomenon in imaginative literature. Poets, as a rule, either cease to sing comparatively early in life, or lose the inspiration which made their voices musical in youth. The Laureate has been known to the public as a poet for nearly sixty years. It is therefore, perhaps, inevitable that his exquisite versification should lose some of its freshness, since its music has sounded in our ears so long; but his strength of imagination and sweetness of fancy evince few symptoms of decline. And his verse, while it delights the young, is equally acceptable to the old. Like Wordsworth, Lord Tennyson "sees into the life of things"; and it may be said of him, as it has been said of his great predecessor, that his poetry is precious because his philosophy is sound.

In his "Life of Henry Fawcett" Mr. Leslie Stephen writes: "There is a story (mythical, I presume) of a Monarch who asked his Minister what would be the cost of inclosing Hyde Park, and received for answer that it could be done for three crowns." We doubt whether the story is mythical. It was Queen Caroline, the wife of George II., who asked the question of Sir Robert Walpole, with reference, not to Hyde Park, but to St. James's, and received for answer "Only three crowns." The anecdote comes to us through Walpole's son, Horace, and is, therefore, as likely to be authentic as any Court anecdote which is one hundred and fifty years old. All the more credible is the story when we remember that originally the Park belonged to the Palace of St. James's, having been first formed and walled in by Henry VIII.

With the approach of another year we may presume that the energetic anniversary-hunters, who play so important a part in the worry of daily life, are already busy. They will have a fine and varied selection of celebrations ready to their hand. The centenary of the death of Frederick the Great (Aug. 17) will presumably be marked in Germany; the expulsion of the Stadtholder in Holland; and the introduction of the umbrella, attributed to James Hanway, into England. The bi-centenaries, at least in Ireland, should have a fine old time in commemoration of the recognition of the Roman Catholic hierarchy of that country by James II.; but in France the anniversary of the "reunion" of Alsace to that country will not bring pleasant feelings. Those who like still more remote events may celebrate, or bemoan, the three hundredth anniversary of the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots; the introduction of tobacco (?) into England, and of potatoes into Ireland; and the formal renunciation of the authority of Philip in the Netherlands. The union of the houses of York and Lancaster 400 years ago will, in the opinion of some, find its response in the electoral sympathies of the two counties in the "People's Parliament," which assembles for the first time. Ladies (non-political ones) will possibly be more tempted to fête the introduction of silk mantles at a ball at Kenilworth Castle; whilst the Esoteric Buddhists might make something out of the fourth centenary of the birth of Cornelius Agrippa, the astrologist. The choice is wide and varied if we go no further back; but we shudder to think what may happen should the "anniversarists" betake themselves to the historical study of remote periods.

"Eagles," we are told, "are becoming quite common in Kent." The next thing will be wolves (whereof some are said to have been found lately in Epping Forest), and our "poor country" will be "a wilderness again, peopled by wolves," its "old inhabitants." The winter was such as to favour the idea—for a week or so.

"Three acres and a cow" is on every lip, and is familiar to everyone in the British Islands just now, but perhaps few people know that "parish cows" were once not uncommon in many English parishes. It appears that cows were bequeathed for charitable purposes in the fifteenth century, and even before then. In a Norfolk parish, in 1563, there were sixty-nine parish cows, which were farmed by the people, and half the produce went to the church funds and half to the poor. The value of each cow was noted as being 10s. A hundred years later we read of the cows being converted into stock or money, and then merged in Charity Trust Funds.

Lovers of the luscious flesh of the common turtle have recently passed through an epoch of much anxiety. It appeared that the comforting old maxim, comparing the quality of the fish in the sea with that which has come to land, did not apply to turtle; and that reptile was becoming scarcer and still more scarce until it seemed that it was doomed to extinction. Now, however, the minds of civic magnates have been set at rest, for a West India barrister has explained that in Jamaica, the Barbadoes, British Honduras, and the Bahamas the precious beast is protected by law, and that, therefore, the general consternation which existed amongst its devotees was groundless.

Only once in the history of the Corporation of the City of London were they compelled to give a banquet devoid of their favourite aliment. This was in the year 1814, when, at a feast given in the Guildhall to the Emperor of Russia and to the King of Prussia, there was no turtle to be had. It generally arrives about the middle of May, but this year the first supply did not reach Portsmouth till June 14, the very day of the banquet. Great was the disappointment of the hosts. Their turtle was there; but, alas! not in time to be turned into its seductive form of callipash and callipee; and so, like Old Mother Hubbard's dog, "the poor Monarchs had none."

Among many interesting facts connected with the British expedition and probable annexation of Upper Burmah, attention is naturally directed towards the famous ruby mines which lie above Mandalay. Mr. Streeter, whose researches after precious stones seem to know no limit, has announced that just before the war broke out he was in treaty with King Theebaw for a concession to work these mines, for which he was prepared to pay £20,000. Plans and maps were already drawn out in connection with the roads by which the treasure would be brought down.

The inhabitants of the little Scotch village of Largs have recently been rejoicing over the interesting ceremony performed by the Earl of Aberdeen of the unveiling of a bronze statue to the late Mr. Robinson Crusoe. Now, to some extent, Largs is entitled to rejoice, for this quiet fishing-village is the birthplace of Alexander Selkirk, who, besides the consolation he must have experienced in being "monarch of all he surveyed," has, through the medium of his prototype, afforded endless pleasure to all who have read his adventures. But does Robinson deserve a statue? The question has frequently been asked concerning Oliver Cromwell, but never till now about the traveller who "made himself a coat from the skin of a goat"; and although we must not be ungrateful for the amusement he has caused, we must not forget that Crusoe was a very naughty lad who ran away from home and broke his parents' hearts, and therefore should not be set up on a pedestal as an example to the young. It strikes one as somewhat curious that while Robinson Crusoe is reproduced in bronze in the native village of Alexander Selkirk, the name of Daniel Defoe should not be mentioned in connection with the interesting proceedings.

A few evenings ago Lord Coleridge, in the course of a speech delivered at what is generally known as a thieves' supper, expressed his opinion that sentences on convicted prisoners were, as a rule, a great deal too harsh. That an opinion coming from such experienced lips as those of the Lord Chief Justice must be correct, was a foregone conclusion; but the police reports this week afford an additional proof of the soundness of his Lordship's judgment. One Christopher Reed, aged eighty-two, was sent back to prison, in Woking Jail, for non-compliance with a provision of the Prevention of Crimes Act. He had spent many years of his life in jail, paying his first visit in 1855, when he served six years for killing a lamb, the property of someone else; he subsequently got six years for stealing a watch, and, again, ten years for stealing a piece of leather; eighteen months for stealing a fowl, and six months in default of finding sureties on a poaching charge; and, lastly, five years for stealing a horse. Now, taking the crimes in the aggregate and comparing them with the sum total of punishment, we find that, for stealing a lamb, a horse, a fowl, a piece of leather, a watch, and being unable to find bail, he has been sentenced to twenty-nine years' incarceration. Lord Coleridge indeed was right.

Servians and Bulgarians are a long while coming to terms; and the chief question seems to be whether Prince Alexander is possessed—among his other excellent gifts—of sufficient wisdom to "let well alone."

In these days of "champions" of all sorts, Mr. Charles Hayward, who was summoned the other day before the magistrates of Ashford, Kent, may be entitled to be called "Champion Anti-Vaccinator," having been charged eight times with refusing to have his child vaccinated. He is already known, it appears, as "the Kentish Anti-Vaccinator"; and Kent, as we know, came out wonderfully Conservative in the late election. But then, as we also know, Leicester, which came out wonderfully Liberal, is the headquarters of anti-vaccination.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

The Marquis of Salisbury met his colleagues in council at the little house in Downing-street on Monday and Tuesday; and, as an outcome of their deliberations, it is stated that the Prime Minister has decided to remain in office, and face the new Parliament, which is to assemble on the Twelfth of January. This is a course as justifiable as was the acceptance of the cares and burdens of the Government by the noble Marquis. Albeit Sir Michael Hicks-Beach secured a majority over the late Gladstone Administration on their injudicious Budget proposals, the Conservative Party was very well known to be in a minority in the House of Commons when the Cabinet of Lord Salisbury acceded to power. Not counting the two final elections of the campaign (those for Edinburgh and St. Andrew's University and for Orkney and Shetland, to be declared on the 18th inst.), the Party of the present Ministry will be in a minority of 251 as against 331 Liberals. But this is reckoning without the Irish Parnellite host, the addition of whose 86 votes to the Conservative total in a division would yield a majority of six over the Liberals. It is clear from Sir Charles Dilke's speech in Chelsea on Monday last that he, for one, is not indisposed to see the Conservative Government retain power next Session. The right hon. Baronet frankly said:—

In my opinion, our principles are more likely to prevail if we are in Opposition against the Conservative party in office in a minority; and, whatever may be our strength, I am satisfied that we shall be quite strong enough to prevent the Conservative party doing any harm.

On the other hand, Mr. Parnell is so far master of the situation that both the Conservative and Liberal leaders are said to be rivals for his hand, and are reported to be vying with each other as to which shall present the most acceptable scheme for local self-government in Ireland. The furtherance of a fair measure of Home Rule throughout the kingdom is desirable on every ground. While it would greatly relieve the Imperial Parliament of parochial business, decentralisation would undoubtedly foster public spirit in the counties, and materially ease the working of the Constitution generally.

The Government are to be credited with sound judgment as well as polite impartiality in resolving to support the re-election as Speaker of Mr. Arthur Peel. We already know, from the explicit declarations of the Premier himself, that the Ministry will be ready to meet Parliament with a Local Government Bill, a measure of land reform, and other legislative proposals. When to their comparative good fortune in the direction of foreign affairs is added the greater urbanity and courtesy shown generally by Conservative Ministers in the conduct of affairs, Sir Charles Dilke will not be alone in supporting their continuance in office as long as they are alive to the necessity of progress.

Under a Royal summons, the Peers of Scotland met on the 10th inst., at Holyrood Palace, and selected sixteen of their number to act as representatives to serve in the new Parliament. The Earl of Glasgow, as Lord Clerk Register, presided, and there was a large attendance. The Marquis of Queensberry made a protest against the manner of election, and defended himself against certain accusations as to his religious belief. The following Peers were elected:—the Earls of Strathmore, Haddington, Lindsay, Northesk, Leven and Melville, Orkney, Airlie, Mar and Kellie; Viscount Strathallan; Lords Forbes, Saltoun, Borthwick, Balfour, Blantyre, Polwarth, and Sinclair.

MUSIC.

At the Crystal Palace concert of last Saturday afternoon, M. Stanislaus Bercevicz made his first appearance in England, and obtained a great success by his fine performance of Wieniawski's second violin concerto, the elaborate difficulties of which the executant rendered with high skill and finish. He was greatly applauded, as also in his execution of an "Adagio" and "Moto Perpetuo" of Franz Ries. A graceful "Scherzo" for orchestra, by Herr Goldmark, was introduced for the first time at these concerts, the other instrumental music having been more or less familiar. Madame Biro De Marion sang, with much dramatic force, Beethoven's scena, "Ah! Perfido," and an arietta by Jomelli. This week's Saturday concert will be the last of the year.

The Monday Popular evening concert of this week brought forward, for the first time here, a quintet for pianoforte and stringed instruments by Friedrich Kiel. The composer was a distinguished professor at Berlin, and the work now referred to is worthy of his high reputation. It was finely played by Miss Agnes Zimmermann, Madame Norman-Néruda, Mr. L. Ries, Herr Straus, and Herr F. Néruda. Miss Zimmermann, and Herr Néruda were, respectively, the solo pianist and violoncellist of the evening, and Mr. Santley the vocalist. After the Saturday afternoon performance of this week, the Popular Concerts will be suspended until Jan. 11.

Handel's "Judas Maccabæus" was given, with grand effect, by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society last week, conducted by Mr. Barnby. The principal solos were well rendered by Miss Anna Williams, Mr. Maas, and Signor Foli; some of the solo music having been assigned to Miss E. Farnoll and Mr. A. Thompson. Some of the orchestral effects were enhanced by the co-operation of the band of the Coldstream Guards. The next concert of the society takes place on the evening of Jan. 1, when "The Messiah" will be given.

The Heckmann string quartet party appeared again, on Tuesday evening, at Prince's Hall, at the third of the series of Herr Franke's chamber concerts. The last concert of the series takes place this (Saturday) evening.

M. De Pachmann gave a recital at St. James's Hall on Monday afternoon, when his special acquirements as a pianist of the first order were manifested in a varied selection from the works of composers of past and present times.

The first Popular Wagner concert was given, at Willis's Rooms, last Monday evening. The chief object of the promoters is to popularise the music of the great German innovator by giving performances of his music at moderate prices; the productions of other composers being also included in the programmes. The first part of Monday's programme included a few vocal pieces from Wagner's "Opera-Dramas," which were deprived of their true effect from the absence of an orchestra, this being an indispensable accessory in all the composer's dramatic music, and one that can never be satisfactorily replaced by a pianoforte accompaniment, however well this may be played. If the scheme now referred to is to effect its intended purpose, it must be by better arrangements than those of Monday's concert.

The Royal Academy of Music was to give a students' orchestral concert, at St. James's Hall, yesterday (Friday).

The Sacred Harmonic Society's Christmas performance of "The Messiah" was announced for yesterday (Friday) evening.

The Strolling Players' Amateur Orchestral Society gave last week, at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, the first concert of their fourth season, with Mr. Megone as honorary conductor. The orchestra comprises a hundred performers, who were heard in a varied selection. The vocalists were Mesdames Marian McKenzie and Adelina Hirslemann. The society now numbers two hundred honorary members.

CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16.

Increased firmness now prevails in the Money Market, and the rate is not under 2½ for the discount of three months' bills, while short loans are rather above than below the deposit rate. It seems, therefore, that the money difficulty is now over, so far as regards keeping the open market up to a due relation to the Bank standard. At the same time, there is more confidence as regards securities, and for several days past the tendency has been upwards. Some of this rebound is due to the progress which at last seems to be in course in the Roumellian difficulty; to the continuance of order in Spain; and to the small effect resulting from Mr. Vanderbilt's death. The demand for foreign and American securities is just now particularly prominent, and with the latter Canadian participate. The more hopeful feeling in regard to home trade favours British railway stocks, and several classes of mining and kindred properties are also looking up; but in no case is the recovery more important than it is in Indian gold-mining shares. Mysore shares were selling at 1s. per share a year ago, and they are now being largely dealt in at about £7.

For the half-year to June 30 the directors of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company are able to pay an additional dividend of £1 7s. 6d. per cent, which is the same as was paid for the corresponding period of last year. The Madras Railway Company did well in the half-year to June 30, earning £148,758, as compared with £114,600 in the first half of 1884, but the result is still greatly below the amount required to meet the guaranteed interest. The report of the Bengal and North-Western Railway shows progress; but the South Indian Company has done less well. From the accounts of the Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi Railway, it appears that the working for the half-year has resulted in a surplus of £21,000 above the guaranteed interest, one half of which falls to the proprietors. Hitherto the net receipts have been under the amount required for the guaranteed interest. The directors of the Bengal Central Railway Company, Limited, announce that in respect to the proposed alterations of the terms of contract with the Secretary of State, they have obtained an offer of a guarantee of 3½ per cent per annum, with a quarter-share of the total net earnings; less any excess of debenture interest above 3½ per cent.

The Inland Revenue department can have but few fields unconquered, but its officers have just found out one. They have applied to the Colonial banks for lists of depositors, that the interest on such deposits may be taxed before it goes to the depositor. As these banks take deposits for terms of years at fixed rates, such deposits are, of course, as much permanent investments as debentures, and are equally subject to tax. There can, therefore, be no valid objection taken to this new move on behalf of the income tax department.

The January coupon of the New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Railroad Company is to be paid to the extent of £1 5s. per £7. During 1885, there has been no payment. Until recently, unpaid interest was funded into equivalent bonds; but deferred interest warrants are now issued.

For the financial year ended Oct. 31, the Commercial Bank of Scotland, Limited, is enabled to maintain its rate of dividend at 14 per cent, or the same as for the previous two years; but the National Bank of Scotland, Limited, in consequence of the depression of trade, has been obliged to lower the rate to 15 per cent, as compared with 16 for 1883-4 and 1882-3.

A steady increase is again reported in the income of the Chelsea Water Works Company, and 8½ per cent per annum is to be paid as dividend for the half-year to Sept. 30. This compares with 8 per cent per annum for the two half-years to March last, and with 7½ for the previous three half-years. The Continental Union Gas Company announced a dividend of 11 per cent.

Russian gold rentes, to the amount of 20,000,000 roubles, are offered for public subscription on the Continent to-day. Power has been taken to pay the interest in London, if the bonds should get over here.

Gold is being remitted to Buenos Ayres, in respect of the Argentine loan to be brought out by Messrs. Baring at the turn of the year.

The Paraguayan bondholders have accepted the proposed terms of settlement expounded last week. T. S.

The most popular book during the present season in the United States is not likely to attain a similar popularity in England. *Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant*, Vol. I. (Sampson Low), naturally claims the attention of every American citizen—the attention which the Duke of Wellington would have received in England fifty years ago had he undertaken to write the story of his eventful life. The English reader, if a student of the great American War, will find General Grant's military details thoroughly interesting. There is a soldier's brevity in the narrative, and, at the same time, a soldier's attention to military details. The most tremendous war of recent days could not have a more manly chronicler from the national point of view; and there are no indications of prejudice against the Confederates. General Grant learnt the soldier's art in the Mexican War, the history of which occupies several chapters. After that, he married; and lived for some time a private life as a clerk in his father's store. Then came the great struggle between the Northern and the Southern States. There was nothing in the Constitution to meet such a contingency; but the author thinks that, if its framers had foreseen it, "the probabilities are they would have sanctioned the right of a State or States to withdraw rather than that there should be war between brethren." But, on the next page, we read that "the fathers would surely have resisted secession could they have lived to see the shape it assumed." General Grant does not linger much in his narrative for the purpose of expressing opinion. He tells the story of Northern victories; and the reader who can find time to follow his descriptions with the help of the plans accompanying them, will find that his labour is not thrown away. It must ever be remembered that though the war proved a death-blow to slavery, the Northerners did not fight in the first instance in order to put down that institution. The abolition of slavery was a grand result of the war, it was not the cause of it; but the author, like many other "Union" men, writes, apparently, as if from the first the war was waged against slavery. General Grant's first sensations as a commander were, he says, far from pleasant. He feared the responsibility; and "my heart," he writes, "kept getting higher and higher, until it felt to me as though it were in my throat." However, when he reached the spot where the enemy were supposed to be found, they had vanished, and, the soldier adds, "my heart returned to its place. It occurred to me at once that Harris had been as much afraid of me as I had been of him. This was a view of the question I had never taken before; but it was one I never forgot afterwards." The volume closes with the capture of Vicksburg, when nearly 2000 prisoners were surrendered, "together with 172 cannon, about 60,000 muskets, and a large amount of ammunition."

THE PLAYHOUSES.

The stage-manager is a very useful individual, and, as a rule, an extremely clever man; but in one department of his art he appears to be lamentably deficient. After carefully rehearsing a burlesque, he has no idea if it be good or bad, and has not the slightest notion what fun is apt and which scenes are likely to be wearisome. In a spectacular drama at Drury-Lane, in a romantic drama at the Princess's, in Haymarket comedy, he can tell approximately how the play will go at sight. But with burlesque, he is utterly at sea. He cannot tell how long it will play, or what will be its fate. It is surely beyond dispute that the most successful burlesques at the Gaiety were the most wretched failures on the occasion of their first representation. They were either received with faint praise, or with a mild chorus of disapproval. The faults that ought to have been seen at a good dress rehearsal were reserved for the detection of the paying public; and when they were remedied, all went well. Mr. Burnand, conscious of this fact, ascribes the blame to modern newspaper criticism, and has formulated a wonderful plan, by which critics are to attend a new burlesque two or three times—once to report, twice to criticise, thrice to reconsider, &c. Heaven forbid! When burlesques are properly rehearsed, and are kept back from the public eye until they are ready, there will be no need for multiplying the duties of any journalist. When a public performance is supposed to be ready to be paid for, it is presumably ready to be criticised. No manager or author can get out of that. "Vanderdecken," at the Novelty, is the latest instance of an ill-digested and ill-prepared burlesque. It had the advantage of the services of three of the most popular performers in this line of art—Miss Alice Atherton, who would hold her own against the best burlesque actresses of the last twenty years; Mr. Willie Edouin, a thoroughly quaint and original comedian; and Mr. Lionel Brough, a popular and clever actor. But, notwithstanding all this aid, "Vanderdecken" was put upon the stage before it was ready; and the result might have been, one would have thought, a foregone conclusion. The very same management had encountered bitter experience of the same kind. "The Japs" was no more ready to be seen, when produced, than "Vanderdecken"; and it cost weeks and weeks of anxious labour to pull it out of the fire. No nervousness, no temporary hitches, no unexpected occurrences, will account for the first-night dreariness and despair of "Vanderdecken"; judgment was alone at fault. All that was good—Miss Atherton in particular—was applauded; all that was bad and silly and dull was as swiftly condemned. But a stage-manager who understood the stage could have seen this as well at the last rehearsal as the public at the first performance. We are informed that since the first representation all has gone well. The burlesque of "Vanderdecken" is said to be "a hit" with the public. The tactics employed with "The Japs" have been employed again with an equally satisfactory result. Let us hope that the public are amused with the repaired and restored "Vanderdecken." It has been "worked up." It is the old story: the first performance of this harmless piece of folly was a bad dress-rehearsal. It should have been the best performance that could be given.

They manage things on a reverse plan in modern Paris. On Sunday night last I was in a stall at the Vaudeville Théâtre and saw the fifth performance of Sardou's "Georgette," and a very indifferent performance it was—indifferent all round—such a performance as would not be tolerated for an instant in a first-class London theatre. Good acting would, indeed, have been required to put a sparkle of life into so tedious a work. Homer sometimes nods. So does the gifted and vivacious Sardou. No scene of interest, no situation of moment, no power of language. The story, such as it is, has been far better told in "Le Fils de Gibogir," in "Le Fils de Corchi," in "Les Idées de Madame Aubray," in a dozen French plays that could be quoted. Sardou propounds a scheme, and leaves it unanswered. He suggests a subject for a dramatic essay—not a play—and brings it to no sound conclusion. As an ingenious French critic has observed, the "Fils de Gibogir" ought to marry the daughter of Georgette. There is no other way out of the difficulty. But then the acting, of which we heard so much on the first night, and of which so many columns appeared in leaded type next morning! Where had it all gone to? It had evaporated. It did not exist. Adolphe Dupuis, in a character utterly unsuited to him, walked through his part. He talked it; he did not act it. Both Tessandier and Fromentin were to me utterly uninteresting; and the new actress, Mlle. Brandès, who is supposed to have made such a hit as Georgette's daughter, was vigorously applauded by a persistent "claque" for a performance that in London would be called cold, uninteresting, and artificial. But, poor lady, how could she be interesting with such a lover—M. Montigny—who is compelled to be the hero of one of the most ludicrous love adventures ever recorded in modern comedy! Alas! the glories of the Vaudeville are temporarily eclipsed. I think of celebrated first nights there, of the triumphs of Fargueal and Bernhardt, and Blanche Pierson and Bartet; I recall the brilliancy of Sardou, his fine exposition, his thrilling scenes. Was this the same author writing for the same theatre? Are those badly-painted rooms, with furniture out of character with the decorations, the best example of modern French scenic art? Is this what we are called upon to admire and imitate? I trust not. I never yawned at the Vaudeville before. But who could be really interested in "Georgette"? Why, even the stage manager was at fault. The whole performance was so listless and indifferent that at the end of the first act the play came to a dead stop. I could not make it out. All at once a voice was heard from one of the boxes behind the proscenium, and a man loudly gesticulated, "Why on earth don't you ring down the curtain?" They do not always manage things better in France. C. S.

Lord Alwyne Compton, Dean of Worcester, has accepted the Bishopric of Ely, vacant by the death of Dr. Woodford.

Dr. Rosnett, of Dublin University, has been elected to the Classical Professorship at Auckland, New Zealand.

The Portraits of the infant Queen of Spain and the Queen Regent are from photographs by Messrs. Barcia y Viet, of Madrid and Seville. Those of some of the new members of the House of Commons were photographed by Messrs. Elliott and Fry, of Baker-street, Russell and Sons, of Brompton-road; J. E. Mayall, of London and Brighton; Fradelle, of Regent-street; Dickinson, of New Bond-street; R. W. Thrupp, of Birmingham; M. Guttenberg, of Manchester; Albert Sachs, of Bradford; Kay and Son, of Bolton; Blomfield, of Hastings; and F. Argall, of Truro.

The foremost social and political personages of the time have annually to run the gauntlet and brave the stings of the *World* and *Truth* satirists. Caustic as ever are the pungent commentators, artistic and literary, in the *World* Christmas number, which, under the apt name of "Atlas in Wonderland," amusingly burlesques fashionable life; the caricatures of Mr. Alfred Bryan being as masterly as usual. Society is tilted at, with similar vivacity, by the artist and writers of the *Truth* Christmas number, which bears the title of "Ye Grand Adventures of Four Men of Might."



MARIA DE LAS MERCEDES,
THE INFANT QUEEN OF SPAIN.



QUEEN MARIA CHRISTINA, REGENT,
WIDOW OF THE LATE KING OF SPAIN.

THE QUEENS OF SPAIN.

The young Queen of Spain, Maria de las Mercedes, eldest daughter of the late King Alfonso XII., is only five years of age, having been born on Sept. 11, 1880. Her mother, the Queen Dowager and Regent of the Kingdom, is Maria Christina, Archduchess of Austria, a daughter of the late Archduke Karl Ferdinand and of his cousin the Archduchess Elizabeth, cousin to the Emperor Francis Joseph. The first wife of the late King of Spain was Maria de las Mercedes, daughter of the Duc de Montpensier and of the Infanta Louisa, the King's aunt, sister of the deposed Queen Isabella II., and second daughter of King Ferdinand VII. Queen "Mercedes" died in 1878, five months after her marriage; and, in the following year, King Alfonso married the Austrian Archduchess, who has two little children, both girls, and is now appointed Regent. Much sympathy is felt for the Royal widow, and it is hoped that her government, exercised by a Constitutional Ministry, will be loyally supported.

THE WAR OF SERBIA AND BULGARIA.

We have been favoured by Prince Alexander of Bulgaria with special permission to be supplied by M. Bernard, the Artist who has accompanied the head-quarters of his Highness in command of the Bulgarian Army, with Sketches of the incidents of the campaign against the invading forces of King Milan of Serbia; and three of our Illustrations published this week belong to that subject. One of them represents a scene of the fighting at Slivnitza; another, which appears on our front page, is that of Prince Alexander, after the battle, decorating soldiers for meritorious acts of bravery; and the large Engraving represents part of the protracted conflict, on the 27th ult., in the Servian frontier town of Pirot. The fighting there was, indeed, of a desperate character, the Servians and Bulgarians bayoneting each other in the streets. Pirot was, however, virtually taken the day before, when the Bulgarians obtained possession of the hills commanding the town. The next day's fighting began

at six o'clock in the morning and lasted until three in the afternoon, the Bulgarians ultimately driving the Servians out of the town by a rush from the heights. A Servian Major and Sub-Lieutenant were wounded, while a hundred Bulgarians were taken prisoners. At Slivnitza, in the disastrous engagement in which Colonel Topalovitch's division was defeated, they were able to withstand the Bulgarian rifle fire, but had no artillery, and had to yield and retire by the way they came. The Drina and Danube divisions were together, and retired hurriedly after their defeat at the central position, leaving Colonel Benitzky's division at Lukovitch. Colonel Benitzky was three hours' ride from the central position; in fact, the communications between the divisions were endangered, and the attempt of the Servians to encircle the Dragoman and Slivnitza Passes and the town of Slivnitza was an impossibility with 42,000 men. For these reasons, the Servians were forced to retire, with very heavy losses, though superior in numbers, on the whole, to the defenders of the position. The admirable steadfastness and fortitude



PRINCE ALEXANDER AT THE BATTLE OF SLIVNITZA.
FROM A SKETCH BY M. BERNARD, SUPPLIED BY SPECIAL PERMISSION OF PRINCE ALEXANDER.



MR. POWELL WILLIAMS—SOUTH BIRMINGHAM.

Born at Worcester, 1840; educated at Edgbaston Proprietary School; entered business in Birmingham; became member of the Town Council; was elected Alderman in 1883; is honorary secretary to the Birmingham Liberal Association, and to the National Liberal Federation.



SIR ROPER LETHBRIDGE—N. KENSINGTON.

Born 1840; educated Exeter College, Oxford; called to Bar Inner Temple; was Professor at Calcutta University and Secretary of Education Commission for Bengal; was transferred to Political Department 1878; was Press Commissioner for Indian Government.



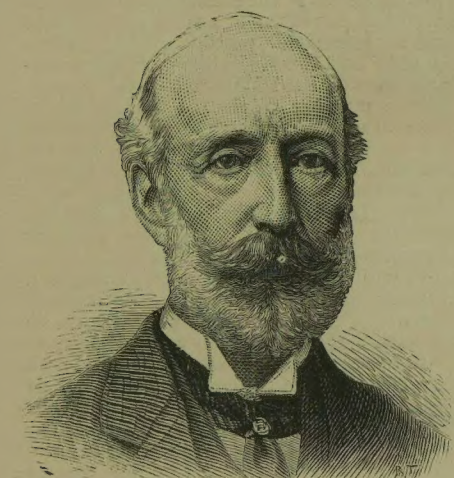
SIR A. BORTHWICK, BART.—S. KENSINGTON.

Born 1830, son of late Mr. Peter Borthwick, M.P. for Evesham; was educated at Paris, and King's College, London; is proprietor of the "Morning Post"; was made a Baronet. Married daughter of Mr. T. Lister, Armitage Park, Staffordshire.



MR. W. KENRICK—NORTH BIRMINGHAM.

Born 1831, educated University College, London; is manufacturer at Birmingham, an Alderman, and was Mayor 1877; is Chairman of Committee of National Liberal Federation; is married to sister of Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P.



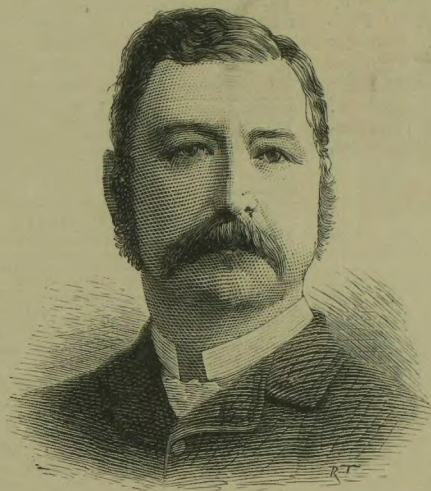
MR. JAMES HUTTON—NORTH MANCHESTER.

Born 1826; is a merchant at Manchester, largely engaged in West African trade; has been active in the International Association of the Congo; is President of Manchester Chamber of Commerce; is a magistrate for Manchester; is Belgian Consul there.



MR. HOWARD SPENSLEY—CENTRAL FINSBURY.

Born in London, 1834, son of a merchant; went to Australia, practised at the Bar, was member of the Victoria Legislative Assembly, and was Solicitor-General of the Colonial Government. Official rank of "Hon." in the colony.



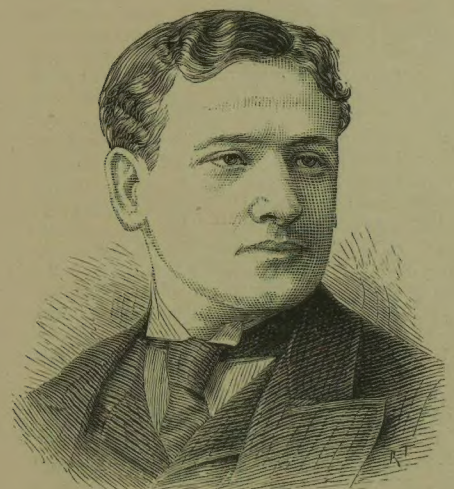
MR. HERBERT SHEPHERD CROSS—BOLTON.

Younger son of Mr. T. Cross, banker and cotton-spinner, Mortfield Hall, Lancashire; born 1847; educated at Harrow, and Exeter College, Oxford; partner, with brother, in Mortfield bleach-works; magistrate for Lancashire and Hertfordshire.



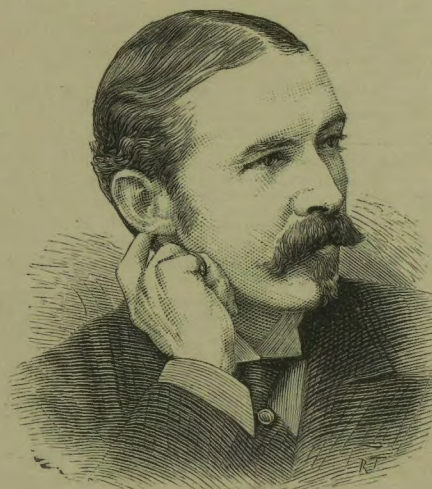
MR. GEORGE HOWELL—N. E. BETHNAL-GREEN.

Son of a builder and contractor in Somersetshire; born 1833; became secretary to London Trades' Council and the Trades' Union Congress, 1869 to 1875; was one of founders International Working Men's Association; active in Reform League.



MR. H. L. W. LAWSON—WEST ST. PANCRAS.

Son of Mr. Edward Levy Lawson, proprietor of "Daily Telegraph," residing at Hall Barn, Bucks. Born 1862; was educated at Eton, and Balliol College, Oxford, and took first-class honours in classics in that University.



MR. W. A. B. BURDETT-COUTTS—WESTMINSTER.

Son of Mr. Ellis Bartlett, of Plymouth; born in America; educated at Chelmsford School, Highgate, and at Keble College, Oxford; married to Baroness Burdett-Coutts, 1881; brother to Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, M.P.



MR. HOWARD VINCENT—CENTRAL SHEFFIELD.

Younger son of late Rev. Sir F. Vincent, Bart., Canon of Chichester; born 1849, educated Westminster School, and Sandhurst Military College; joined 23rd Welsh Fusiliers; called to Bar 1876; Director of Criminal Investigations in Metropolitan Police, 1878 to 1884.



COLONEL HON. F. C. BRIDGEMAN—BOLTON.

Second son of Earl of Bradford; born 1846; educated at Harrow; served in Scots Greys, and in the late campaign under Sir Gerald Graham near Souakim; was attached to Special Embassy to Madrid in 1878; married daughter of Mr. G. Hanbury, Blythewood Hall, Kent.



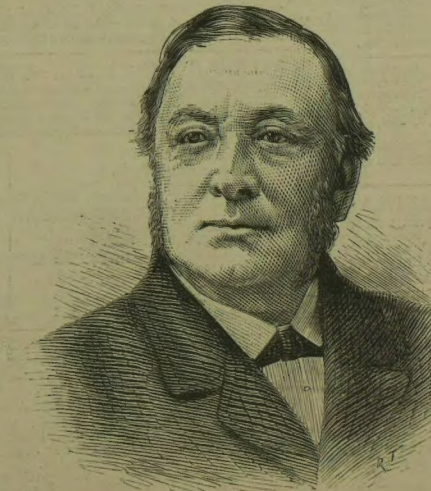
MR. ANGUS HOLDEN—EAST BRADFORD.

Son of Mr. Isaac Holden, M.P., of Keighley, a Bradford and French manufacturer. Educated at Edinburgh, and Wesley College, Sheffield; is in his father's business; was Mayor of Bradford 1880, and on the Bradford School Board; candidate for Knaresborough 1880.



MR. G. DIXON—EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

Born 1820; educated at Leeds Grammar School; one of firm Rabone Brothers, Birmingham; was Mayor 1866; Chairman of Birmingham School Board, and of National Education League; M.P. for Birmingham, 1869 to 1876; son-in-law of Right Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P.



SIR HENRY ROSCOE—SOUTH MANCHESTER.

Grandson of William Roscoe, of Liverpool, the historian; born 1833; educated Liverpool High School, University College, London, and Heidelberg; Professor of Chemistry at Owen's College, Victoria University, Manchester, since 1857; was President of Chemical Society.



MR. W. COOK—EAST BIRMINGHAM.

Born 1834; apprenticed to pin and wire trade; is a rivet manufacturer, an Alderman and borough magistrate, and was Mayor of Birmingham in 1883; was Chairman of the Health Committee of the Birmingham Town Council from 1875.

of the Bulgarian troops, as in the preceding conflicts at the Dragoman Pass, effectually checked the advance of their enemy; the Servians might just as well have pressed against a stone wall as against those devoted men. In vain King Milan's regiments deployed in a straight line of two miles' length, poured volley after volley, and sent hissing shrapnels among the dauntless adversaries; the Bulgarians resisted, and held their ground with a tenacity wonderful in troops which had scarcely had any former experience of warfare. There is now ground for hope that this useless and needless conflict will be stopped by the influence of the Great Powers in binding Serbia to abstain from further aggression, without compromising the claims of the Bulgarian nationality, and that a Turkish military intervention will be avoided. The latest news, indeed, looks like preparations for fresh military movements; it seems that the position of the Servian head-quarters, at present at Bela Palanka, is about to be changed. The Bulgarian army has moved forward towards Knyazevatz, to defend which place the Servians have been obliged to evacuate their positions near Pirot. The Servian right wing is now posted on the Crevnareka and Plotcha heights, and the left at Knyazevatz, the centre being between. In the meantime, the Austrian Government has addressed telegrams to Belgrade and Sofia, requiring that both Serbia and Bulgaria should declare their submission to the ruling of the International Military Commission representing the Great Powers, for an armistice, pending the settlement of all political and territorial questions.

THE COURT.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, went to London yesterday week, and visited the Duchess of Cambridge at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty travelled by special train on the Great Western Railway to and from Paddington, and returned to the castle at seven o'clock. Princess Beatrice drove to Cumberland Lodge, and visited Princess Christian. General the Right Hon. Sir H. Ponsonby, and the Hon. Captain and Mrs. North Dalrymple, had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal family. On Saturday morning her Majesty went out, attended by the Hon. Frederica Fitzroy. Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, and the Marquis of Lorne, left the castle. The Queen held a Council, at which were present Viscount Cranbrook, G.C.S.I., Lord President of the Council; Lord George Hamilton, First Lord of the Admiralty; and the Right Hon. D. Plunket, First Commissioner of Works. Sir Henry Charles Lopes, Lord Justice of Appeal, and the Right Hon. Stephen Woulfe Flanagan, Judge of the Land Court in Ireland, were introduced and sworn in members of the Privy Council. Lord Cranbrook had an audience of her Majesty. On Sunday morning the Queen and Royal Family and the members of her Majesty's household attended Divine service in the private chapel, the Very Rev. Randall Davidson, Dean of Windsor, officiating. Monday being the anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort and of Princess Alice, the Queen, with the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family, went to the Royal Mausoleum, Frogmore, where a special memorial service was performed by the Dean of Windsor. The Empress Eugénie paid a short visit to her Majesty, the Empress being present at the anniversary service at the Frogmore Mausoleum. The Duchess of Albany took leave of her Majesty on Tuesday morning, and left the castle at half-past twelve o'clock for Claremont. The freedom of Windsor was presented to Prince Henry of Battenberg on Wednesday.

The Prince of Wales returned to London on Thursday week from visiting the Right Hon. H. Chaplin at Blankney Hall, Lincoln; and the Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince George and Princess Louise, arrived at Marlborough House from Sandringham. The Prince and Princess received the German Ambassador, Count Hatzfeldt, at Marlborough House. The Prince was present at a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Trustees of the British Museum last Saturday morning, and afterwards presided at a general meeting. The Prince and Princess received the Turkish Ambassador, Rustem Pasha, at Marlborough House. The Prince likewise received Colonel Greeley, of the United States Army, who was presented to his Royal Highness by the United States Minister, Mr. Phelps. Prince Albert Victor, arrived at Marlborough House in the morning from Aldershot. In the afternoon the Prince and Princess, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, and by Princess Louise, left Marlborough House on a visit to the Queen at Windsor Castle, returning on Monday. Next day the Prince and Princess, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor, Prince George, and Princess Louise, left Marlborough House on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Leicester, at Holkham, Norfolk.

Count and Countess Gleichen, by permission of the Queen, have resumed the name and title of Serene Highnesses Prince and Princess Victor of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, and their children will retain their present name and title of Counts and Countesses of Gleichen.

The Queen has been pleased to confer the Order of the Garter, vacant by the death of the Duke of Somerset, upon the Duke of Norfolk.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.—LONDON. BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY. ALL EXPRESS AND ORDINARY RETURN TICKETS issued on Dec. 23, 24, and 25 will be available for the Return Journey by any Train of the same description and class up to and including Tuesday, Dec. 29, except those issued for a less distance than ten miles.

PORTSMOUTH AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.—EXTRA TRAINS. DEC. 23 and 24.—The Fast Train leaving Victoria 4.55 p.m., and London Bridge 5.10 p.m. will take passengers for Ryde, St. Helens, Bembridge, Sandown, Shanklin, Ventnor, and on the 24th to Cowes and Newport also (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class).

CHRISTMAS DAY Extra Fast Trains (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class) from Portsmouth Harbour 7 and 8.25 a.m., to London. Boats in connection from Ryde 6.30 and 7.30 a.m.

BRIGHTON EVERY SUNDAY AND ON CHRISTMAS DAY.—Cheap First Class Trains from Victoria 10.45 a.m. and 12.50 p.m., calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon. Day Return Tickets, 10s. A Pullman Drawing-room Car is run in the 10.45 a.m. Train from Victoria to Brighton, returning from Brighton by the 8.40 p.m. Train. Special Cheap Fare from Victoria, including Pullman Car, 12s., available by these Trains only.

CHRISTMAS EVE EXTRA LATE TRAIN.—A Special Train will leave Victoria 11.50 p.m. and London Bridge at Midnight, Thursday, Dec. 24, for Redhill, Brighton, Lewes, Eastbourne, St. Leonards, Hastings, Worthing, Chichester, Havant, and Portsmouth (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class).

BRANCH BOOKING OFFICES.—For the convenience of Passengers who may desire to take their Tickets in advance, the following Branch Booking-offices, in addition to those at the Victoria and London Bridge Stations, are now open for the issue of Tickets to all Stations on the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway to the Isle of Wight, Paris, and the Continent, &c.:—The Company's West-End Booking-offices, 12, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, W., and 8, Grand Hotel-buildings; * Cook's Tourist-offices, Ludgate-circus and Euston-road; Gaze's Tourist-offices, 142, Strand; Hay's City Agency, 4, Royal Exchange-buildings, Cornhill; Lettis and Co., 23, King William-street, City; Whiteley's, Westbourne Grove; Jakins', "The Red Cap," 6, Camden-road. Tickets issued at these Offices will be dated to suit the convenience of passengers. * These two Offices will remain open until 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, Dec. 22, 23, and 24. For further particulars see Handbills, to be had at all Stations, and at any of the above Offices. (By Order) J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

JAPAN IN LONDON.—UNDER ROYAL PATRONAGE. OPEN DAILY, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Performances Free, at Twelve, Thirteen, and Eight o'clock, in the new Shubaya, built to accommodate Fifteen Hundred persons. THE JAPANESE VILLAGE, entirely Remodelled and Rebuilt on a new and fireproof system. Military and other Bands. Admission, One Shilling. Wednesday, Half-a-Crown. Originator and Managing Director, TANNABER BUKICROSAS.

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BIRTHS.

On the 12th inst., at Broomhall, the Countess of Elgin, of a daughter.
On the 9th inst., at Dangan Kilishen, in the county of Clare, the wife of Major MacMahon-Creagh, of a son and heir.

DEATH.

On the 12th inst., at his residence, William Beale, of Manor House, Stoke Newington, and Jeffrey's-square, London, in his 95th year. Born at Sherborne, Aug. 4, 1791.

* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

ANNO DOMINI, THE SEARCH FOR BEAUTY, and "The Chosen Five," by EDWIN LONG, R.A. These celebrated Pictures, with other Works, are ON VIEW at the GALLERIES, 168, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORIS Last Great PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW on VIEW at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, with his other great pictures. Ten to Six daily. 1s.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS. THE WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, 5, Pall-mall East. From Ten till Five. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

NOVELLO'S ORATORIO CONCERTS. Conductor, Mr. Mackenzie.

REDEMPTION, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, on TUESDAY NEXT, at Eight o'clock. Madame Albani, Miss Hilda Howard, Madame Trebelli; Mr. Maas, Mr. Ludwig, and Mr. Santley. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; balcony, 5s.; admission, 2s. 6d.; to be obtained at Novello, Ewer, and Co.'s, 1, Berners-street, W., and 80 and 81, Queen-street, E.C.; the usual Agents; and at Austin's Ticket-office, St. James's Hall.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—BOXING DAY, DEC. 26. Mr. AMBROSE AUSTIN'S NATIONAL HOLIDAY FESTIVAL CONCERT, at 2.30. Madame Albani and Madame Patey, Mr. Edward Lloyd and Mr. Santley, Miss Mary Beare, Miss Frances Harrison, Miss Meredith Elliott, Flute, Mr. Svendsen; Harp, Mr. John Thomas (harpsichord); Her Majesty the Queen. The London Select Choir (Conductor, Mr. W. G. Cousins), the Band of the Middlesex Yeomanry Cavalry (Bandmaster, Mr. W. T. Graves). Conductors, Mr. Sidney Naylor and Signor Bisaccia. Boxes, £1 1s. to £3 3s. Tickets, 7s. 6d., 5s., 3s., 2s., 1s., at Royal Albert Hall; usual Agents; and at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, ST. JAMES'S GRAND HALL.—THE MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS' TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SERIES OF HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES will begin on BOXING DAY, DEC. 26. FOR WHICH A GIGANTIC PROGRAMME HAS BEEN IN ACTIVE REHEARSAL. Mr. Moore and Burgess, who have just past, and who will surpass in excellence all their previous triumphs of this World-famed Company. PERFORMANCES WILL BE GIVEN EVERY DAY AND EVERY NIGHT throughout the Holidays. Five Thousand Seats, in the most beautiful and luxurious Hall in Europe. Places can now be booked for every Performance, a month in advance, at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall. No fees for booking.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Mr. WILSON BARRETT, Lessee and Manager. EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, the New Play, by Henry Arthur Jones and Wilson Barrett, HOODMAN BLIND. Produced under the sole direction of Mr. Wilson Barrett. Messrs. Wilson Barrett, E. S. Willard, C. Cooper, E. Price, G. Walton, C. Hudson, C. Fulton, Evans, Bernage, Elliott, Barington, &c., and George Barrett; Miss Eastlake, Mesdames Huntley, Cooke, Clitherow, &c. Prices: Private Boxes, £1 1s. to £9 9s.; Stalls, 10s.; Dress Circle, 6s.; Upper Boxes, 3s.; Box-office, 9.30 to 10.15. No fees. Business Manager, Mr. John Cobbe. MORNING PERFORMANCE of HOODMAN BLIND EVERY SATURDAY at Two.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.—FAUST.—THIS SATURDAY EVENING, at a Quarter to Eight o'clock, FAUST, adapted and arranged by W. G. Wills, from the first part of Goethe's Tragedy, will be produced this SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 19. Mephistopheles, Mr. Henry Irving; Martha, Mrs. Stirling; Margaret, Miss Ellen Terry. Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open from Ten to Five. Seats booked one month in advance; or, by letter or telegram.—LYCEUM.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—The Management has the honour to announce that the above Theatre will REOPEN, SATURDAY, JAN. 2, on which date Mr. Barrymore's Play, NAJEEZDA, will be produced. The Booking-office will be open daily as usual.—HAYMARKET.

THE PRINCES'S THEATRE, Coventry-street, W. Lighted by Electricity. Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE. REOPENING ON BOXING DAY, and following Evenings, at Eight, with ANDY BLAKE. Followed by, at Nine, the successful Farce Play, in Three Acts, by R. C. Carton and Cecil Raleigh, called THE GREAT PINK PEARL. For Cast, see daily papers. Doors open at 7.30, commence at Eight. Carriages at Eleven. Box-office open Eleven to Five. Seats may be booked by letter, telegram, or telephone (3760). Matinee of GREAT PINK PEARL, SATURDAY NEXT (Boxing Day) at Three. Preceded by ANDY BLAKE, at Two. Doors open at 1.45. Business Manager and Treasurer, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.

THE HEALTH OF THE RIVIERA. As regards life, reports are again in its favour, and to the effect that the intestinal affections and gastro-enteritis have entirely disappeared during the last fifteen days. The effects of the tropical heat and the abuse of water, melons, peaches, &c., were very visible. These effects no longer exist. Very copious rains have lately fallen, which have cleared off animal and vegetable decomposition; and it appears that all danger, even to the most sensitive, has passed away. Dr. Wakefield, of Nice, says that there has been no case there for more than a month; and visitors are daily arriving.

We have also been informed that Monte Carlo, Monaco, La Turbie, &c., remain free from anything to disturb public health. Very favourable accounts have been received as to the sanitary state of Mentone. It appears from an official document issued by the Mayor of this town that the public health is all that can be desired; it has remained entirely unaffected by the epidemic which visited Toulon and Marseilles; and in the worst years of 1835 and 1865, when all Europe was more or less suffering from this scourge, Mentone was entirely free from it. On reference to a comparative state of the mortality of this town for the months of July, August, September, and October, it appears there were 105 deaths in 1883, 106 in 1884, and 68 only in 1885. Cannes has been free from any alarming epidemic; the sanitary conditions cause the health to be all that can be desired, and an unusually good season is expected.

We may add that at Saint Raphael, near Cannes, and at Hyères, the hygienic state of the towns is all that is desirable; and at Marseilles there has been no epidemic for several weeks, and confidence is entirely restored.

MONTE CARLO.—THE ADMINISTRATION OF MONTE CARLO, in its endeavour to diversify the brilliant and exceptional entertainments offered to the Cosmopolitan High Life frequenting the shores of the Mediterranean during the Winter Season 1885-6, has much pleasure in announcing the following remarkable representations, for which purpose Mr. Fabian has already engaged—

Mesdames Isaac,	Mesdames Rose Delaunay,
"Thullier-Marié,	"Thullier-Loloir,
"Franc Duvvernoy,	"Noémie Vernon,
"Mons. Bertin-Tauffenberg, &c.	

In JANUARY and APRIL will be PERFORMED—
LE GRAND MOGUL. LA JOLIE PARFUMEUSE.
LA PETITE MARIEE. LA MASCOTTE, &c.
In FEBRUARY and MARCH—
LAILA ROUKH. LE ROI L'A DIT.
HAYDEE. GALATHEE.
CARMEN. LES NOCES DE JEANNETTE.
LE TOREADOR, &c.

THE INTERNATIONAL PIGEON-SHOOTING AT MONACO, 1885-6. These International Meetings (First Series) will commence on Tuesday, Dec. 15, and be continued every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday up to Jan. 14, 1886. Special prizes are added to each of the events.

GRAND INTERNATIONAL MEETING. Saturday, Jan. 16: Grand Poule d'Essai. 2000f.
Tuesday, Jan. 19: Prix d'Ouverture. 3000f. and an object of Art.
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 22 and 23: Grand Prix du Casino. An object of Art of 5000f. and 20,000f.
Monday, Jan. 25: Prix de Monte Carlo (Grand Handicap). An object of Art and 3000f.
Thursday, Jan. 28: Prix de Consolation (Handicap). An object of Art and 1000f.
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 29 and 30: Second Universal Championship (Triennial). A good Gun and 5000f.

Besides, the Stand will be opened every Monday and Friday from Jan. 10 until Feb. 28 for Pools and Matches.

A second Series of Meetings will take place immediately after the GRAND CONCOURS, and will be continued until March 10, every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Thursday and Friday, March 11 and 12: The Grand Prix de Cloture. An object of Art and 5000f., will be followed by a Third Series of Meetings until April. For full particulars, address M. A. BLONDI, Secretary, Pigeon-Shooting, Monte Carlo.

SEA BATHING AT MONACO.

This is pursued during the Winter Season, on a sandy beach, facing the Grand Hôtel des Bains. MONTE CARLO is supplied with the following superior Hotels:—Grand Hôtel de Paris, the Grand Hôtel de la Victoria, Hôtel des Anglais, Grand Hôtel de Monte Carlo, Hôtel de Russie, Beau Rivage, &c.; and furnished villas, together with excellent apartments, are to be obtained.

NEW BOOKS.

At least a gold medal, such as is "awarded" for elaborate preparations of "orange marmalade," or for a masterpiece in the way of "purifying pills," ought to be bestowed upon somebody for the publication of so stupendous a work as the *Life and Times of General Sir Edward Cecil, Viscount Wimbledon*: by Charles Dalton, F.R.G.S. (Sampson Low and Co.), contained in two very handsome red-covered volumes of such enormous bulk and so stuffed with closely (but clearly) printed matter that even a Methuselah might despair of finding leisure to tackle them, and might utter a sympathetic groan over the time and trouble necessarily expended by the author upon a biographical and historical monograph for which it would be rash to predict the most infinitesimal portion of popular appreciation, that best reward of the enthusiastic and industrious biographer or historiographer. Let haste be made, however, to acknowledge, with gratitude, that to each of the two gigantic volumes is affixed a pretty copious index, whereby the formidable work is robbed of half its terrors and is rendered extremely useful as a book of reference for students and others. For the authorities which have been consulted, and which are mostly given in the notes, are, of course, legion, and the personages and events of whom and of which some mention is made are almost countless, so that, with the help of the index, a reader or student who has occasion to deal with the period at which Sir Edward Cecil lived and knows just the name of some prominent person of that age, will find a vast store of information ready prepared, easy of access, and gathered together from sources duly specified, whereby their importance can be properly weighed and appreciated. The author seems to have been induced to take upon himself the laborious task he has accomplished by a somewhat curious consideration. It appears to have struck him that, "there being only three instances in the seventeenth century of soldiers of fortune, who had served under a foreign flag, being appointed to the high, but unenviable, position of commander-in-chief of an English fleet," and two of the three commanders—namely, Robert Bertie, tenth Lord Willoughby De Eresby, created Earl of Lindsey, and the celebrated George Monk, created Duke of Albemarle, having had their lives already written, symmetry required that the life of the third, Edward Cecil, Viscount Wimbledon (who was a conspicuous failure, but has been painted blacker than he really was, and so has a sort of right to be partly whitewashed), should find its apologist. For it is in the character of an apologist that our author desires to be regarded rather than as a flatterer. It is scarcely necessary to state that the two volumes are to a considerable extent made up of letters which Sir E. Cecil wrote or received, or which relate to matters in which he was concerned; and such letters, numerous and voluminous as they may be, have always a certain interest and even fascination for a large class of readers. And now, Who was Sir Edward Cecil? He was a grandson of the famous Lord Burghley, whose "nod" is historical and as celebrated as that of the Homeric Zeus, and was the third son of Sir Thomas Cecil (the great Lord Burghley's only son), who was created Earl of Exeter in 1605. Sir Edward was born at Burghley House, Stamford, on Feb. 29, 1571-2, and, having been three married, died in 1638. He was a "soldier of fortune," served in Holland, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth, was a member of Parliament, became a General and an Admiral (a not uncommon combination in old times), and, notwithstanding many failures to set against his gallantry and a few successes, was created Viscount Wimbledon and Baron Putney in the first year of the reign of Charles I. This is quite enough to prepare readers for the narrative which awaits them, and the interest of which will depend very much upon their humour.

There is some excellent reading for young and old (especially, if not professedly, for the former) in *The Boy in the Bush*: by the late Richard Rowe (Hodder and Stoughton), a volume abounding with exciting adventure, graphic descriptions, stirring and improving scenes, and striking illustrations, bearing witness to the artistic skill of Zwecker, Fraser, Mahoney, and Dalziel. There are twelve separate sketches of life in Australia: they are all written with great dash and spirit; many are amusing as well as interesting; some are instructive, others are startling; and there is scarcely a single one of them which does not promise to implant in the boy who reads them a good seed—the germ of high, moral, manly, and even chivalrous qualities, not without a modicum of wholesome religious feeling. It is much to be regretted that there will be no more such productions from the same vigorous writer.

According to high authority, "The evil that men do lives after them; the good is oft interred with their bones." But that remark probably would not apply to posthumous collections like *Imprisoned in a Spanish Convent*: with other narratives and tales, composed (and, maybe, published in magazines or elsewhere) during his lifetime by E. C. Grenville-Murray (Vizetelly and Co.), and now offered to the public in a single volume, profusely and more or less elegantly illustrated. The stories, whereof the scenes are laid in foreign countries chiefly—in Spain, in France, in Germany, in Russia—as became an author whose personal experience and professional career had made him familiar with official life and private society in "foreign parts," bear witness to the author's great versatility, ingenuity, and dramatic power. They certainly lack the brilliancy for which many of his other productions were remarkable; but, on the other hand, they have far less, if indeed they have any, of that cynicism, personal rancour, almost vulgar audacity, which rendered his most admirable writings offensive to delicate taste and generous feeling. The tales and narratives are both comic and tragic, though tragedy—or should one say, melodrama?—is a little more prominent, perhaps, if not more frequent, than comedy. The story of the girl who was imprisoned in a Spanish convent is both grave and gay; and it contains such statements about the ease with which persons may be confined as lunatics that even Mrs. Weldon herself would probably be astonished at them. One of the tales professes to tell of the fate which befell a Christmas plum-pudding, supposed to have been sent by the hands of a Queen's messenger from Windsor Castle to the King of Westphalia. The pudding represented to have been actually rent miscarried, and it was thought by those concerned advisable to prepare a substitute, which, on the ground that an English plum-pudding contains "all sorts" of ingredients, "was made to include four cold pork-chops, a German sausage, six pounds of ginger-bread, twelve lemons, a box of sweet biscuits, a quart of treacle, three pounds of chocolate," in addition to the more ordinary matters of suet, raisins, currants, and so on; and "lastly, when all these articles had been minced and brayed together, the pudding was boiled for the nine regulation hours, in a mixture consisting of four gallons of rum, two of brandy, two of kirsch, twenty-four bottles of claret, and twelve of burgundy, the whole sweetened with twenty pounds of sugar." Fortunately, but against all likelihood, "it delighted the King and Queen of Westphalia, and the whole Royal family," though it appears to have got into their heads.

All the jewellery stolen from Netherby Hall has now been recovered.

ART AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

On Thursday of last week took place the biennial distribution of prizes awarded by the Royal Academy to the students in its schools, and the selected works sent in for competition were subsequently exhibited to the public. The Royal Academy every alternate year presents a gold medal and a travelling studentship (£200) to each of its most distinguished pupils in the three recognised branches of its teaching—painting, sculpture, and architecture—besides a number of smaller prizes and distinctions which are bestowed annually. On the present occasion, the subject given for the historical painting was a "Scene from Hamlet," each student being allowed free choice as to the episode he would select. Scenes of violent action, such as the death of Polonius or of the King, the madness of Ophelia, seemed to have special attractions for the competitors. Among these, the principal prize and blue ribbon of the race was carried off by Mr. Horace B. Fisher, who had chosen the scene between Hamlet and the gravedigger. In his treatment of the figures of both the Prince and Horatio, Mr. Fisher had thrown considerable vigour; and if one could dissociate from one's mind that the Hamlet of Shakspeare played his part at Elsinore and not in Florence, one would commend equally Mr. Fisher's colouring and local setting of the scene. The gold medal and travelling fellowship for sculpture were awarded to Mr. Fred. W. Pomeroy, for a group of three figures, "Cain, the Outcast," which showed rather careful modelling than original inspiration; and Mr. Thomas M'Laren carried off the like award for architecture. Of the other prizes, the more important were the Turner gold medal, for landscape painting, awarded to Mr. Charles Alexander Wilkinson, for "A Mountain of Clouds," such as that raised by the Magician before Hassan's eyes in the "Arabian Nights"; the Creswick prize, also for landscape painting, awarded to Miss Minna Taylor for her treatment of "A Silent Pool," which in the present case was dark and overhung with foliage; the Academy silver medal for the cartoon of a draped figure, awarded to Miss Margaret Simpson for her rendering of "Grief," a female figure, prostrate at the tomb of her lost hero; and the Armitage prize and medal for a design in monochrome, awarded to Mr. W. H. Margotson, the subject given being "Joseph Discovering Himself to his Brethren." There were numerous other prizes, as for decorative work (Mr. R. Anning Bell), drawing a head from life (Miss A. Sheriff), perspective (Mr. E. A. T. Scott), drawing of figure from the life (Mr. A. G. Walker), a model of a design (Mr. W. E. Reynolds Stephens); but perhaps the nearest approach to a success from outside was Mr. J. Rhind's group, in clay, of two figures wrestling, to which a prize was deservedly awarded. The first silver medal for the copy of an oil painting (Sir Joshua Reynolds' portrait of himself) was awarded to Mr. Samuel Green Enderby, of Boston; and the first prize (£50), a set of three drawings from the life, to Mr. George Hutchinson. It may seem strange that among the competitions no "life studies" appeared in the room—nor among the list of awards. We do not know whether, in deference to the recently expressed opinion of one Academician, the study of the nude figure has been altogether abolished from the "life school," or whether only its official recognition is omitted. In either case, it must seem to everyone who has the cause of English art at heart that something more than individual caprice should be allowed to preside over the training of art students. The Royal Academy has a public function to discharge; and if it shrinks from any one of its recognised duties, its most earnest pupils will forsake its training, and be lost either for the Academy or England as artists. The only other solution is that the whole of the "life" studies—upwards of 150—were either lost or otherwise made away with. If this mysterious story be true, there was surely need of some allusion to the fact, in the presence of a body of young men and ladies whose two years' works were thus ignored. The distribution of awards was followed by the President's biennial address, which, at one time, was looked forward to as an authoritative of the progress of contemporary art. Sir Frederick Leighton, however, has abandoned this tradition, and on Thursday night set himself to explain the various influences which were brought to bear upon Italy at a period long antecedent to that of which we have any very authentic remains. He traced, with much minuteness, the spread of the Phœnician, Punic, Samnite power, the limited range of the so-called Etruscan art, and the causes which underlay the poverty of all Roman arts except that of architecture. Sir F. Leighton's paper was eloquent, erudite, and ornate; but we make bold to suggest that it would have been listened to with greater interest, and would have carried with it the additional charm of congruity, had it been read before a meeting of the Ethnographical or Archaeological Society. From the President of the Royal Academy, on such solemn and rarely occurring occasions, we have a right to look for something more intimately associated with the art of which he is the most prominent representative; and, although there may be occasions when the advocacy of one's own special sympathies, in the face of other men's antipathies, may be out of place, everyone would applaud the President of the Royal Academy of Arts, who would defend, as Sir Frederick Leighton could not fail to do, with dignity and courtesy, his own views as to the aims and limits of his art.

The portrait of Mr. George Scharf, C.B., the keeper of the National Portrait Gallery, has now been finished, and is to be seen at the studio of the artist, Mr. W. W. Ouless, R.A., for a few days prior to his removal. The likeness is an excellent one, and represents Mr. Scharf in a brown velvet shooting-coat, pencil in hand, just looking up from his note-book, in which he has been writing. Mr. Ouless has been very successful in catching the sharp, intelligent expression of the original, and the picture, which is destined for the Board-room of the National Portrait Gallery, is a fitting and pleasant acknowledgment of the services of its first director, to whose care and skill the gallery owes its high position. The portrait was painted by public subscription among Mr. Scharf's friends, amongst whom are not a few of the most distinguished art patrons of the day.

The Vienna Society for the Reproduction of Works of Art (Gesellschaft für Vervielfältigende Kunst) have just issued the first number of a publication which will be highly esteemed by all art lovers. It is a résumé of the state of reproductive art in our time, and deals with woodcuts, etchings, engravings, &c., each article being amply illustrated with examples. Among such are Menzel, Birket Foster, Samuel Read, John Leech, Gavarni, and others, English and Continental, not to mention several magnificent full-page plates by Sonnenleiter, Bartholmess, Raab, Radirung, and other eminent engravers, after masters like Richter, Vautier, Angeli, and Rubens. There has been no expense spared in the "get up" of the book: its character is altogether artistic.

The late Lord Dudley's famous Raphael, "The Three Graces," has been sold for £25,000 to the Duc d'Aumale.

At the conclusion of Miss J. E. Harrison's course of lectures on Greek vase paintings, which have been delivered during the past six weeks, at the theatre of the South Kensington Museum, Professor C. T. Newton made a few remarks. After gracefully alluding to the pleasure which he had derived from

the lectures, and to the new ideas which the teacher had gained from his pupil's keen insight into and fresh sympathies with her subject, he gave a short account of what had already been done towards the establishment of the British School of Archaeology at Athens. The idea had first taken shape at a meeting held about two years ago at Marlborough House, by the invitation of the Prince of Wales. The feeling was then strongly expressed that England should not fall behind France, Germany, and the United States, which had already founded schools at Athens, and a large number of distinguished persons at once associated themselves to take steps to remove what they regarded as a reproach to our love of art and learning. Since then, a sum of about four thousand pounds has been subscribed, and the Greek Government has generously given an appropriate site on the slopes of Mount Lycabettus. The building, which has been erected under the general supervision of Mr. Penrose, is now rapidly approaching completion; and, when complete, will contain rooms for the director, and a library, which will be provided with as complete a collection of books of reference as it will be possible to acquire. The main object of the school will be to afford to students and properly accredited travellers assistance and advice, and to exercise a general supervision over their archaeological, literary, and art researches; to report from time to time any important discoveries which may come to his knowledge, and to edit the publications of the school. Professor Newton, whilst acknowledging the support the school had already received from the few, hoped that ere long it would be recognised by the many, who remember that Great Britain, which was foremost in bringing to light the treasures of Greek art of the past, should not allow others to distance them in the pursuit of art knowledge. A word of thanks is due to the authorities of the South Kensington Museum for having lent their theatre for so good a cause; and it is to be hoped that they will recognise the services of Miss Harrison by offering to her similar facilities for a second course of lectures, of which she held out the hope, during the ensuing spring.

David Cox, jun., died, on the 4th inst., at Streatham, within a mile or two of the house where he had been born nearly seventy-seven years previously. He had throughout his long and laborious life to reap the advantages and drawbacks of being the son of his father, who stands almost on a level with Turner and Constable in the list of English landscape-painters. Young David Cox was born at Dulwich, his father then being about thirty years old and his mother a Miss Mary Ragg. Times were not, in 1809, very propitious for rising artists, and shortly after his son's birth David Cox accepted the post of drawing-master in a ladies' school near Hereford, and his one boy was in due course sent to Hereford Grammar School. He had been so entirely his father's companion that it is not surprising that he should have followed his father's example; and in 1827 the family came back to London, and young David's first picture, "A Cottage in Herefordshire," was sent to the Academy. His progress in popular favour was, however, slow; and for many years he worked almost exclusively for the dealers, producing plenty of work which gave evidence of freshness and vigour, but of no distinctive individualism. He devoted himself almost exclusively to water-colour painting, and in 1849, ten years before his father's death, he was elected an Associate of the "old" society, where he exhibited, with little intermission, down to the time of his death.

Mr. James Fahey, the oldest member of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours, died at The Grange, Shepherd's-Bush-green, on the 11th inst. He joined the "New Society of Painters in Water Colours" fifty-one years ago, and was for forty years its secretary. He exhibited regularly up to last year.

The office of Receiver of Revenues for the Crown in the island of Jersey has, it is reported, been conferred upon Mr. Edward Maurant, M.A., Seigneur of Samares. Mr. Maurant held the position of Judge of the Royal Court in Jersey for eleven years.

Among the novelties issued at this Christmas time one introduced by Messrs. Parkins and Gotto, of Oxford-street, may be noticed. It is a toy-menagerie, easily fitted up, and well supplied with flaming pictures of wild beasts, which are readily changed; so that through the bars of this menagerie children can gaze, awe-struck, yet safe, at lions, tigers, and other beasts of prey, succeeding one another in quick succession.

All persons concerned in keeping orderly records of their daily business—household, official, professional, or commercial—should provide themselves with diaries suited to their special needs from among the great variety published by Messrs. T. J. and J. Smith, of 109, Queen Victoria-street. Pocket-books, almanacks, reference and scribbling diaries, of various sizes and forms, to suit wellnigh every conceivable requirement, are published by this enterprising firm.

Christmas and New-Year cards literally swarm this year. To the numerous publishers of these graceful trifles already mentioned in these columns, three more have to be added—surely the last. Mr. Harding, art-publisher, of 157, Piccadilly, disdaining the use of meretricious colour, has issued some originalities in plain black and white. His specialities this season are—British sport and pastimes, and a set of beautiful floral studies. While, however, these quiet works of art please a certain class, the many are delighted with bits of colour, and their taste has been largely ministered to. Messrs. Meissner and Buch, of 112, Fleet-street, and of Leipsic, have issued a good selection of pretty chromos, of all sizes and shapes; and Messrs. J. F. Schipper and Co., of King-street, Covent-garden, have an excellent display, including some reproductions in chromolithography of Turner's best-known works, highly creditable to artist and printer, and a diversified assortment of chastely-coloured cards, some of them being satin-faced.

Fifty per cent reduction has just been made by the Duke of Sutherland in the amount of his crofters' rents, and an extension of the time of payment has been granted. At the rent audit recently held at Edensor, the Duke of Devonshire allowed an abatement of 10 per cent to his tenantry on the Edensor and Chatsworth estates, in respect of their rents due at Michaelmas. His Grace has also made large grants of manure, &c., to his tenants during the year, calculated to be equal to about 30 per cent on their rents. The Marquis of Salisbury has granted an abatement of 15 per cent on the rents of the agricultural tenants on his Hatfield estate for the present half-year. The Earl of Warwick has made a reduction of 15 per cent in the rents of his tenants on his Warwick estate dating from Michaelmas last. Lord Dynevor has announced a remission of 20 per cent on all the rents of his Welsh tenant farmers. Sir Thomas Brassey, at his half-yearly rent audit on Saturday at Battle, remitted 20 per cent of the rent due. The tenants of Mr. J. C. Kay, of Gomersham Park, have had 20 per cent remitted on their half-year's rents. At the rent audits of Lord Crewe's Cheshire and Staffordshire estates, held last week, a rebate of from 10 to 25 per cent off the farm rents was made, varying to meet the special circumstances of each case.

GIFT-BOOKS FOR GIRLS.

Tales of desperate risks, of battle, murder, and sudden death, of being attacked by scalping savages, or at sea by roving pirates, of killing wild beasts in the Indian jungle or on the plains of South Africa, of wonderful long shots, of climbing trees and rocks, and tumbling into caverns, are not suitable to the average taste of our girls. We have plenty of that sort for the boys, a few of which are noticed in another column, and there are more still awaiting the opportunity of mention. Christmas brings also for the good little maidens of English households a seasonable supply of fiction, which is of milder and more domesticated interest: tales of family affection, examples of the gentler virtues, of daughterly and sisterly duty, of faithful female friendship; of trials at school and at home patiently and successfully endured; of the early promise of womanhood, of its first experiences in the social life of elders, and of its perpetual mission to be the comforter and guide of little children.

The books for young ladies are numerous, and deserving of praise. Miss Kate Hutton, whose "Holiday-Time at Forest House" was noticed as a story that gave fair promise of literary power, has written *Dessie Fennimore*, a tale of "country-town" children, published by Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton. It was nearly a hundred years ago, in London, that Dessie was obliged, by her father's death, being a motherless little girl, to go and live with her uncle, a teacher and librarian of the Literary and Scientific Club at Burley; and her long journey by the stage-coach, sitting beside the kind old coachman, leads to quite a new start in her youthful life. Uncle Richard was a lonely, studious man, dwelling with a prim housekeeper, when Dessie's arrival called forth his capacity of loving care and wise direction of the mind of childhood. Her gradual awakening to a sense of gratitude and esteem for the character of her own father, with whose true motives and feelings, as he was a man of reserved disposition, she had been unacquainted in his lifetime, is delicately but forcibly exhibited. The most dramatic incident of the narrative is the arrest and trial of Mr. Richard Fennimore upon a charge of having procured and kept in the public library a book of atheistic philosophy; and the part which is here played by a very amusing boy named Tom, in the service of that gentleman, as well as Tom's other queer tricks and way of talking, enlivens the course of the story. Other young persons, Fanny Packer, the neglected daughter of a selfish and restless mercantile clerk, making a good foil for the virtues of Dessie's parent and guardian, and a charming little girl named Polly, in an early stage of infancy, are shown among the Burley friends of the heroine. The characters of the older neighbours, particularly the good-natured stage-coachman, and of John and Martha, the old servants of Dessie's first home in London, are distinctly and humorously portrayed; and there is plenty of action and incident, managed with the apparent ease of skilful invention and narration.

A tale of excellent morality, wisely conceived and free from affectation, by Miss Sarah Tytler, is called *Her Gentle Deeds* (published by W. Isbister). It is the story of Kirsten Stewart, a Scottish maiden, the daughter of a retired military veteran, brought up in an English country town, and sent to Australia, where she had an aunt, with the resolve to earn her own living. She stays but three months in the colony, having met with a cruel disappointment, and having an opportunity of returning to England in charge of three children. Finding herself with them in London, and left without money, she seeks work for their support, being as brave as she is gentle, till her struggles and anxieties in town are relieved by the discovery of a bequest, with which she gets home and accepts a worthy lover. There is sufficient interest of plot to make it a readable, though not an exciting, story.

A beautiful and touching little story, by Mrs. Stanley Leathes, is called *Afloat* (J. F. Shaw, publisher), and relates how a sweet little girl of five years, sleeping in her father's fishing-boat on the beach, was sent adrift in the Channel, and how she was happily rescued. The parents, honest Sim Garland and his good wife, Mary, who is ill, and tried with terrible distress, are two of the best characters in humble life that are to be met with in prose or in poetry. We shall not find a more loveable little book, or one that more truly strikes home to the heart.

A multitude of young readers, and the parents of girls wisely and religiously brought up, have gained pleasure and good instruction from "A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam" and "The Cloud with the Silver Lining." These short tales, with others by the same author, Mrs. Mackarness, *The Dream Chintz* and *The Star in the Desert*, which are new, form a series of bright little cheap volumes, very suitable for Sunday-school prizes, to be had of Crosby, Lockwood, and Co.

That clever and entertaining American writer, Louisa Alcott, who has told us much of "Little Women," and of people of bigger growth, presents in *Lulu's Library* (Sampson Low and Co.) a collection of twelve brief stories, out of "Aunt Jo's Scrap-book," which make a capital Christmas gift for intelligent children.

We leave to young ladies the reading of such books as *Cassandra's Casket*, by Emma Marshall (Nisbet and Co.); *Fortune's Favourite*, by Emma Jane Worboise (James Clarke and Co.); *Kirk's Mill*, and other stories, by Mrs. O'Reilly (Hatchards); *Little Jeanne's Work*, by C. A. Jones (Wells, Gardner, Darton, and Co.); *Her Husband's Home*, by Evelyn Everett-Green (J. F. Shaw and Co.); *When I was a Child*, by Linda Villari (T. Fisher, Unwin); *Daisy Plains*, by the author of "The Wide, Wide World" (James Nisbet and Co.); *The Pennant Family*, by Anne Beale (Hodder and Stoughton); *St. Austin's Lodge*, by Agnes Giberne; *Silver Mill*, a tale of the Don Valley, by Mrs. R. H. Read (Blackie and Son); *Through a Refiner's Fire*, by Eleanor Holmes (Griffith and Farran); *Cairnforth and Sons*, by Helen Shipton (S.P.C.K.); *Lena Graham*, and *New Honours*, by C. Selby Lowndes (F. Warne and Co.); *Faithful Friends*, by L. T. Meade (W. Isbister); *Mustard Leaves*, a story of Americans visiting London (Sampson Low); *A Generous Friendship*, likewise American (Griffith and Farran); *Broken Hearts are Still*, by Phœbe Allen; *Her Saddest Blessing*, by Jennie Chappell (S. W. Partridge and Co.); *A Woman of Business*, by M. Bramston (S.P.C.K.); *On the Cliff*, by Catherine Shaw (J. F. Shaw); and *Oldham*, by L. E. Guernsey; *Prudence Winterburn*, by Sarah Doudney (Hodder and Stoughton); *A Great Revenge*, by Sidney Mary Sitwell (S.P.C.K.); also, *The Oliver Children*, and several other little books issued by that Society, and *A Nineteenth Century Hero*, by Laura M. Lane; *That Child*, by the author of "The Atelier du Lys" (Hatchards); *The Queen of the Arena*, and other stories, by Major Stewart Harrison (T. Fisher Unwin), and *That Aggravating School-girl*, by Grace Stebbing (J. Nisbet and Co.), which is not the least amusing of these tales.

Those books for children which are rather pictorial than literary in their main composition, and seem designed as much to be looked at, for the sake of the drawings, as to be read, will have to be separately reviewed.



THE WAR BETWEEN SERBIA AND BULGARIA: THE FIGHT AT PIROT.
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 15.

The complementary elections which took place here on Sunday were not calculated to reassure the politicians; abstention attained extraordinary proportions. At the elections of Oct. 4, M. Lockroy headed the list, with 233,573 votes; at the election of last Sunday, the candidate first on the list did not obtain 120,000 votes in Paris alone. Nearly 200,000 voters abstained in the department of the Seine. No candidate having obtained the necessary majority, further elections will have to be held on Dec. 27. On Sunday, the Radicals headed the list; then came Deroulède and Ranc; and then the Reactionaries, in a compact mass, separated from one another by only a small number of votes. Certainly, the anti-Republicans are gaining ground; they are better organised than their adversaries, and they vote firmly. From the political point of view, the elections of Sunday may be regarded as an indication that Clémenceau is ripe for power. It is the Clémenceau list that heads the poll; and the keynote of that list is "Reform." Now, Clémenceau, according to many Republicans, and according to all the Reactionaries, is the last hope of the Republic. What will happen if the great Opposition leader proves to be a failure as a Government leader?

The moment of a Ministerial change is approaching. The Tonquin Commission will finish its labours to-morrow by the discussion of M. Pelletan's report, which concludes negatively—that is to say, M. Pelletan will propose to vote estimates necessary to maintain the troops until the evacuation of Tonquin, which is to be completed within three months. But if the Ministry finds this period insufficient? However, the great debate on the subject will begin on Monday next, and will probably last all the week. The Congress for the Presidential election will meet at Versailles on Tuesday, Dec. 29.

Sardon's new play, "Georgette," has not proved a brilliant success. The author has attempted the rôle of a moralist, but he has not had the courage to draw any conclusions as regards the delicate theme which he discusses, and so his piece remains unsatisfactory, and his characters leave the spectator indifferent. At the end of this week we are to have a new play by Alphonse Daudet, or, rather, a dramatisation of his novel "Sapho." Daudet has just published an amusing volume called "Tartarin sur les Alpes." Admirers of Daudet will remember the wonderful adventures of the hero of "Tartarin de Tarascon." The same Tartarin is the hero of the present volume, which gives the history of his fantastic tour in Switzerland, amidst Nihilists, Cook's excursionists, German hotel-keepers, and Swiss guides. The stupendous exaggeration, the lying, the boastfulness, and other ebullient qualities of the southern Frenchman are depicted with infinite humour by Alphonse Daudet; and when we lay down the volume we are almost persuaded that Switzerland is, as Tartarin is led to believe, an immense Kur-aal, administered by a company for the amusement of strangers, and provided with scenery and machinery like an opera-house. "The crevasses and avalanches cost the company large sums to keep up. At the bottom of each precipice an employé is stationed to pick up the tourists, who fall on soft mattresses, and to brush their clothes. Sometimes a mountain-climber seems to disappear. Error! This is done to give a semblance of local colour, and the victim is kept abroad for six months at the expense of the company."

When the theatres of Paris are unprosperous, it is a sign of hard times. At present, with the exception of the Comédie Française, the Gymnase, and the Vaudeville, all the theatres are in an unsatisfactory state: a new piece will draw for a week, and then the receipts fall off suddenly. Foreigners, provincials and Parisians, too, seem to be getting out of the habit of theatre-going. What is the reason? What is the cause of the decadence of the Parisian stage? The theatrical managers are trying to discover the root of the evil; some suggest a diminution of the prices, others protest against the crushing percentage levied for the *droit des pauvres*, others attribute their disasters to the free list. The manager of the Porte St. Martin Theatre calculates that in each of the twenty-five Parisian theatres the average number of seats given away to actors, authors, journalists, dressmakers, &c., is 100 a day, in all 2500. Taking the theatrical year at ten months, we get a total of 755,000 places a year given away, representing, say, at 5f. a place, near four millions of francs loss. The free ticket, always for the best places in the house—namely, boxes or stalls—has become so much an institution that many Parisians never think of going to the theatre by the ordinary process of paying for their seat. The question of free tickets has been discussed recently by the Dramatic Authors' Society, and the managers of the Opéra, the Odéon, the Vaudeville, the Gymnase, the Châtelet, are unanimous in condemning the system. But the main reason why the theatres are not prosperous is probably to be sought in the lightness of the public purse. The latest statistics of the city of Paris show that the Parisians are eating less than last year, and that the only food the consumption of which has increased is pork and herrings. This simple fact means a great deal: it means that the Parisians are stinting their appetite; and the very last economy that the Parisian submits to is economy in food.

Amongst the patients of M. Pasteur is the painter M. Charles Meissonier, the son of the famous Meissonier. M. Charles Meissonier and a maid-servant have both been bitten by a watch-dog. Up to yesterday, M. Pasteur has inoculated ninety-two persons who have been bitten by mad dogs. One of the most recent patients is a captain of the Russian Imperial Guard, who has come to Paris to be treated.

Who determines whether we men shall wear tight trousers or loose trousers, whether our waistcoat shall button high or low? For the Latin world the word of order comes from the "Société Philanthropique des Maîtres Tailleurs," founded at Paris in 1834. Every year this society appoints a committee of eleven members, selected from the fashionable tailors of the day, which committee appoints a president, who, with the aid of a draughtsman, proceeds to compose the new fashions for each season. These designs are approved or modified in solemn session of the other members of the committee, and then engraved. A copy of the engraving is sent to each member of the society, and so the fashion is set not only in Paris, but in Shanghai, Sydney, Rio Janeiro, Mexico, and wherever the society has adherents; and the English tailors are not masters of the market. The proceeds of the annual subscriptions of the members of the society serve not only to pay for the engraving, but to provide keep for indigent tailors and to support a school of technical tailoring at Paris. T. C.

King Alfonso was sung on Saturday last in the Church of San Francisco the Great, Madrid. The service was attended by the members of the Spanish Government, the National and Municipal Authorities, and by the special Envoys accredited for this purpose by all the Courts of Europe. Thirty-four Bishops were present at the altar. The Archbishop of Valladolid delivered the funeral oration.

From Lisbon the death is announced of King Ferdinand, father of the King of Portugal, and first cousin of the late Prince Consort. The deceased Sovereign had just completed his sixty-ninth year.

M. Deucher has been elected by the United Chambers President of the Swiss Confederation for 1886, by 149 votes out of 156; and M. Droz has been elected Vice-President by 138 votes.

The Lower House of the Hungarian Diet on Monday passed, by 215 against 130 votes, the bill establishing quinquennial Parliaments in place of the three years' period.

Official telegrams received at the War Office from Cairo confirm the accounts already published of the attack made by the rebels at Mograkeh and Kosheh on the 12th inst., and of their repulse by British and Egyptian troops. The 2nd Battalion Dublin Fusiliers preceded from Alexandria to Cairo on Monday.

The funeral of the late Mr. Vanderbilt took place on the 11th inst. The ceremony was very simple and quiet, display of all kinds being rigorously avoided. The fortune left by him is generally estimated at 200,000,000 dols. (£40,000,000). He has bequeathed two millions sterling to each of his eight children; and, after providing abundantly for his widow, and directing some annuities and some charitable bequests, has provided that the residue shall be divided between the two elder sons. This remainder is estimated at about eighteen millions sterling. The family have come to an arrangement that the railway stock held by them shall only be dealt with upon the joint consent of all.

Mr. George Foster, member of the Dominion Parliament for New Brunswick, has been sworn in as Minister of Marine, in the place of the Hon. A. W. M'Leelan, member for Nova Scotia, who takes the post of Minister of Finance, which had become vacant, owing to the retirement from Parliament of Sir Leonard Tilley. The Hon. John Norquay, Premier of Manitoba, has been presented by the Governor-General with one of the medals cast in commemoration of Confederation, in recognition of his public services.

King Theebaw arrived on Monday afternoon at Madras, where it is believed that he will remain permanently. The sacred white elephant died on the 6th inst., and was buried the following day. The Buddhist Archbishop has informed Colonel Sladen that he will assist in every way in pacifying the country. He has notified all the district priests that the English will respect their religion, and has urgently implored them to promote peace.

An agreement has been signed at the Colonial Office by the Secretary of State, on behalf of the Queen, and by the Maharajah of Johore, in which, after other provisions concerning the relations of Johore with the colony of the Straits Settlements, her Majesty agrees that the Maharajah shall in future be acknowledged as his Highness the Sultan of the State and Territory of Johore.

It is telegraphed from Sydney that the Hon. G. E. Dibbs, Premier and Colonial Treasurer of New South Wales, made his financial statement in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th inst. The Premier commenced by alluding to the fall in the price of the staple products of New South Wales, the unexpected drought from which the colony has suffered during the last two years, and the consequent loss and destruction of live stock, which accounted for the depression of trade and the decrease in the revenue. In consequence of this state of things, all must have been prepared to expect a deficit, especially as, in addition to the causes mentioned above, the determination of the former Government to avoid a wasteful alienation of the public land had withdrawn from the Budget very large sums of money which had heretofore served to swell the revenue. Notwithstanding these difficulties, Mr. Dibbs estimated that the revenue of the current year would reach a total of £7,750,000, while against this there was an estimated expenditure of £8,800,000, leaving at the close of the financial year a deficiency of £1,050,000, which the Government proposed to meet in part by the application of an estimated surplus of £243,000 in the revenue for 1886, which was expected to reach £8,850,000, and the residue by the issue of short-dated Treasury bills. The South Australian Parliament was prorogued on the 11th inst. by the Governor. The Federal Bill has been withdrawn for this Session, but it is understood that it will be reintroduced next Session. The Melbourne Cricket Club has decided to send an Australian team to England next season.

A short time ago, we gave an illustration of a very handsome grand pianoforte exhibited at the Inventions by Messrs. Kirkman and Son. We are pleased to find that this firm received the highest award of gold medal at the hands of the jury.

According to the Registrar-General's report, 2504 births and 1474 deaths were registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 153 and the deaths 351 below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years.

Last Saturday the board of delegates of the Hospital Saturday Fund met and adopted the report of the Distribution Committee, recommending that £9500 of the £11,300 already realised be distributed among seventy-one hospitals, forty dispensaries, and nineteen convalescent homes and other institutions.

The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs and a large number of guests were entertained at a dinner at the Albion Hotel on Tuesday night by the Library Committee of the Corporation. The speakers included Mr. George Shaw, chairman of the committee, who presided, Professor Tyndall, and the Lord Mayor. It was stated that the Corporation had never spared itself or its funds to make the Library an institution second to none in the United Kingdom.

Lord Iddesleigh distributed the prizes yesterday week to the students of the Science Classes at Exeter. He observed that one remedy for the depression of trade which could be promptly applied was to improve the character of British work. The progress which Continental nations, and especially Germany, had lately made in industrial pursuits was attributed mainly to the training given in the technical schools. If England would hold her own she must give more attention to scientific instruction.

A maiden lady, named Mary Minnet, died recently, at Girtan, near Newark, under circumstances leading to the assumption that she had been suffering from extreme poverty. Considerable surprise was, therefore, caused in the neighbourhood when the house was searched, after the funeral, and over £2340 was discovered. The money was secreted in different places, £400 being found at the top of the bed, while a number of bank-notes were stitched beneath a carpet as for lining. Fifteen spade ace guineas were found, and altogether there was about a peck of copper, silver, and gold coins.

OBITUARY.

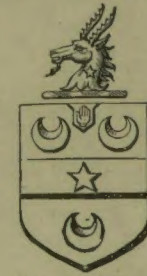
SIR WILLIAM MAXWELL, BART.

Sir William Maxwell, tenth Baronet of Calderwood, in the county of Lanark, died on the 4th inst., at Calderwood Castle. He was born Aug. 11, 1828, the only son of Sir Hugh Bates Maxwell, ninth Baronet, and represented an eminent line of the great Scottish family of Maxwell. He succeeded his father in 1870, and married, April 20, 1880, Jane, youngest daughter of Mr. Frank Baird, by whom he had no issue. There does not appear to be any near heir to the Baronetcy, but, as the dignity was conferred in 1627 with remainder to his heirs male whatsoever, it cannot be said to be extinct. The Maxwells, Lords Farnham, in Ireland, come within the limitation.



SIR WILLIAM OGLE, BART.

Sir William Ogle, fifth Baronet of Worthy, Hants, died on the 2nd inst., aged sixty-two. He was only son of Sir Charles Ogle, second Baronet, Admiral of the Fleet, by Lætitia, his second wife, daughter of Sir William Burroughs, Bart., and had been an invalid for many years. He succeeded his nephew, Sir Chaloner Ogle, fourth Baronet, Nov. 20, 1861. The title now devolves on Sir William's cousin, General Edmund Ogle, R.E., who was born in 1816, and married, in 1842, Catherine Beverley, daughter of Mr. Henry Sainthill, of Bradninch Manor House, Devon, by whom he has issue. The present Baronet entered the Royal Engineers in 1834, and became Lieutenant-General 1877.



SIR ALEXANDER REID, BART.

Sir Alexander Reid, eighth Baronet of Barra, Aberdeenshire, died on the 7th inst. He was born Nov. 12, 1798, a younger son of Sir John Reid, fifth Baronet, by Barbara, his wife, daughter of Dr. Thomas Livingston, of Dawny Hills, and succeeded his brother, Sir William Reid, seventh Baronet, Oct. 28, 1845. He married, in 1840, Donna Francisca Amalia Ferraira De Sampaio, and became a widower, April 23, 1884.



THE DEAN OF CHESTER.

Dean Howson, who had been lying ill at Bournemouth for some time, died on the 15th inst. The Very Rev. John Saul Howson was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and took his B.A. degree in 1837. He was consecrated deacon in 1845, and priest the following year, by the Bishop of Chester. From 1849 to 1865 Mr. Howson was Principal of Liverpool College, and it was during that period that he associated himself with the Rev. J. Conybeare in writing "The Life and Epistles of St. Paul," which has remained a standard work on the subject. Mr. Howson was appointed Vicar of Wisbeach St. Peter in 1866, and in the following year he became Dean of Chester. He was Chaplain to the Bishop of Ely from 1867 to 1873, and Chaplain to the Bishop of Winchester in 1873.

THE DEAN OF DROMORE.

The Very Rev. Jeffry Lefroy, M.A., Dean of Dromore, who died on the 10th inst., at Aghaderg Glebe, Loughbrickland, aged seventy-six, was third son of the late Right Hon. Thomas Langlois Lefroy, Lord Chief Justice of Ireland for many years, by Mary, his wife, only daughter and heir of Mr. Jeffry Paul, of Silverspring, in the county of Wexford. He graduated at Trinity College in 1832, was ordained in 1833, and became Dean of Dromore in 1876. He married, in 1844, Helena, daughter of the Rev. Frederic French, by Helena, his wife, sister of the sixth Earl of Egmont, and leaves issue.

We have also to record the deaths of:—

Captain Cockhutt Heathcote, of Littleover, county Derby, J.P. and D.L., on the 6th inst., aged ninety-two.

Mr. George William Griffiths Thomas, of Ystrad Mynach and the Heath, Glamorganshire, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff, 1870, on the 8th inst., aged forty-two.

Rev. Henry William Pinnock, D.C.L., LL.D., Vicar of Pinner, Watford, Herts, in his seventy-third year. He was a voluminous writer, his works relating chiefly to ecclesiastical laws and usages.

Major-General William Hindley Crichton, C.B., late Commissioner, Central Provinces of India, on the 7th inst., aged sixty-six. He entered the Madras army in 1839, and attained the rank of Major-General in 1872. The decoration of the Bath was conferred on him in 1860.

Mr. Thomas Chapman, of Whitby, county York, J.P. and D.L., F.R.S. and F.S.A., on the 8th inst., aged eighty-seven. The Chapmans of Whitby appear from the Registers and Rolls of Whitby Abbey, to have been resident at Whitby and Yburn Dale prior to 1400.

The editor of *Truth* has received 8000 new sixpences for distribution at Christmas among the children in the London workhouses and workhouse schools.

The Corporation of Southampton have adopted a proposal to apply to Parliament for powers to construct a deep-water dock, at the cost of over £200,000, exclusive of the land.

The Maharajah of Mysore, following the example of the Hosiababad Commissioners of Lucknow, is having a turret-clock erected at his palace by Mr. J. W. Benson, of Ludgate-hill. The new clock has two illuminated dials, strikes the hours, and is fitted with all recent improvements.

Lord Wolseley, presiding on the 10th at the annual dinner of the North London Rifle Club, proposed the toast of the military and naval services, praising the efficiency of naval officers, and pointing out the importance of the Militia and Volunteers. He urged that the latter should form a signalling and also a medical corps.

A new choir, under the title of the "London Choral Union," has been organised for the performance of the smaller unfamiliar works (by classical and other composers) which it is hardly the province of the larger London choirs to undertake. Upwards of seventy members have joined, and Mr. Gustav Ernest has been appointed conductor.

When Lord Tennyson's poem called "Vastness" appeared last month in *Macmillan's Magazine*, the London correspondent of a New York paper secured an early copy and cabled a great part of it. By cabling the division into lines and all the details of punctuation, he succeeded in getting it reproduced in his newspaper without a single error.

PICTURE GIFT-BOOKS.

There are many remaining for us yet to notice. "There is nothing better than giving presents," says the lady who has written one of these pleasant volumes. It is time for the purchase of some that we are going to recommend. The elder people, who should be well acquainted with that bright and happy man of genius, the late Rev. Charles Kingsley, Canon of Westminster, will know the value of *The Water Babies*: a beautiful romance, full of true wisdom and of true natural history, rich in humorous fancies, in sweet and innocent wit, a stream in which the child can swim with safety, and the philosopher can pick up many gems of thought. Mr. Linley Sambourne, an artist with the rare talent of combining the grotesque with the graceful in form, has given a pictorial interpretation, in one hundred drawings, to the author's lively ideas; and the volume, finely printed and handsomely bound, comes to us from Messrs. Macmillan and Co. Who would not like to have had the wonderful good fortune of poor Tom, the chimney-sweeper's boy?—to have been snatched up in a dream, washed clean as a cherub in clear running water, and shown all the lovely creatures that are living in the rivers and in the depths of the sea!—to learn a needful lesson from strict Mistress "Bedonebyasyoudid," and then to meet the consoling presence of a kinder teacher, "Mrs. Doasyouwouldbedoneby"; finally, to be reconciled to the Universe, to comprehend that Science is not opposed to Faith, and that physical processes subserve, after all, the spiritual purpose of a divine Creator. These serious teachings, with the delightful savour of fancy and playfulness in the varied incidents of the story, lose nothing of their impressiveness; while Mr. Linley Sambourne's pencil has been well employed in designing the new illustrations.

The lady above referred to, one much esteemed in literature by the name of Miss Georgiana Craik, has produced a new book called *Twelve Old Friends* (Swan, Sonnenschein, and Co.), adorned with some of Gustave Doré's masterly drawings of chosen subjects from Æsop's Fables. Among the Christmas gifts to three children, Maurice, Pansy, and Jack, to whom we are introduced in the opening chapter, is an English edition of the famous ancient Greek fabulist; and because the children find his stories rather too short, Aunt Hester proposes to lengthen and vary these popular narratives, which is accordingly done, beginning with "The Town and Country Mouse," in a very effective and agreeable style. The dramatic character of Æsop's conceptions, and the shrewdness of his moral and prudential meanings, give permanent virtue to these instructive tales; but they are far less engaging to mere imagination than the inventions of amusing folk-lore in different nations of Europe, especially in Germany and the Scandinavian countries. Hans Christian Andersen, one of the modern Princes of Fairyland, is republished every year, as well as the learned Grimm, in our own language; and Messrs. Hildesheimer and Faulkner have printed, in fine colours and half-tints, a series of designs by Alice Havers, to accompany Mrs. H. B. Paull's translation of *The White Swans, and Other Tales*, making an elegant artistic volume. Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, who gave us "The Jackdaw of Rheims" and another of the "Ingoldsby Legends" with Mr. Ernest Jessop's clever grotesque drawings, have issued Whittier's touching ballad of *Maud Müller*, with coloured illustrations by G. Carline, which have much character, force, and humour; but the rustic maiden is not so pretty as she is described by the American poet. We are glad also to receive Longfellow's *Village Blacksmith*, with fine wood engravings by several American artists, from Messrs. Griffith and Farran, Okeden, and Welsh (the new style of the good old firm at the corner of St. Paul's-churchyard); Goldsmith's *Deserted Village* (Cassell and Co.), likewise embellished with woodcuts; Milton's *L'Allegro* and *Il Penseroso* (Cassell and Co.), with his *Hymn on the Nativity*, similarly illustrated in a good style; and Wordsworth's *Ode on Immortality*, and *Tintern Abbey*, from the same publishers, deserving equal commendation.

A volume printed entirely in gold, and entitled *The Golden Gospel*, being that of St. John, with an introductory treatise by the Rev. J. R. Macduff, D.D., and with a frontispiece of Thorwaldsen's statue of the beloved Disciple, has been produced by Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co., of London and Belfast. The pages are decorated with a tasteful border of wreathed foliage, and are delightful to the eye. We have already noticed an artistic edition of the *Sermon on the Mount*. The "National Society, for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church," publishes an elaborate and beautiful work of art-reproduction applied to New Testament subjects. It is entitled *The Life of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ*, but consists of twenty-four pictures, copied from the great Italian painters of sacred themes, and printed in colours by Spottiswoode and Co. Each picture is accompanied by quotations of a prophetic text from the more ancient Hebrew Scriptures, and of a line or verse from one of the Evangelists' narratives. But the greater part of the literary contents of this volume is devoted to the critical biographies of the Italian artists; and Mr. F. T. Palgrave writes an historical account of religious art in Italy. It may be questioned whether this has much to do, in England, with the "Principles of the Established Church," or with the "Education of the Poor"; but the National Society is doubtless warranted in undertaking

the publication, and we can testify that it has earned a claim to the gratitude of the lovers of art. Most of the pictures were copied in Italy by Mr. Edward Goodall; those by Gaudenzio Ferrari, in the Franciscan Church at Varallo, are here represented for the first time in England. We should, however, for the purpose of an aid to religious instruction, decidedly prefer what the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge has issued: *The Parables of Our Lord*, with the drawings made by Sir John Everett Millais, R.A., from 1857 to 1863, which are carefully engraved by the Brothers Dalziel.

Having got so far into the domain of art-history, this seems to us a fit opportunity for noticing one of Messrs. Seeley and Co.'s publications, consisting of two critical essays, by Mr. W. M. Conway, on *The Artistic Development of Reynolds and Gainsborough*, studied at the Grosvenor Gallery Exhibitions of those great English painters, last year and this year. Mr. Conway is a zealous and faithful student of their excellencies, and his remarks show much discrimination. Eight specimens of the most characteristic works of Reynolds and Gainsborough are presented in this book. The yearly volume of Messrs. Seeley's valuable magazine of art, *The Portfolio*, edited by that genial and accomplished writer, Mr. P. G. Hamerton, is equal in every department to its predecessors. The etchings, by Lalande, A. Massé, Richeton, F. Slocombe, Heywood Hardy, C. O. Murray, Rhead, and Myers, and the engravings on wood or plate, drawn by H. Raiton, J. Pennell, and others, or executed by Dujardin, Brandard, or some skilful hand, with a fine mezzotint by Brunet-Debaines, are of high quality; the critical and descriptive essays, as usual, are worth reading.

VEVEY, LAKE OF GENEVA.

We present a View of Vevey, which is known to tourists in Switzerland as a very pretty place, charmingly situated on the border of the Lake of Geneva, with a mild and genial climate, such as to attract numbers of English and American residents there, in winter as well as in summer, and to be especially recommended by the medical faculty as a resort for invalids. The View we give was sketched from a spot above the Church of St. Martin, commanding a prospect of the distant snowy mountains, the Great St. Bernard, Mount Vélan, and the "Dent du Midi"; while in the opposite direction are seen the green summits of the Vaudois Alps and the Savoy mountains, with the beautiful Lake Leman, or Lake of Geneva.

The town of Vevey is pleasant and interesting; its principal street runs parallel with the lake, and great attention is paid to the proper condition of the streets, which are always clean and tidy, and free from unpleasant odours. In the vignettes at the bottom of our Engraving are represented the Russian church, which is a very elegant structure, and the Catholic church, likewise handsome in construction. There is also an English church, built in the style of architecture generally adopted in England; and another English church is in course of construction in the park of the Grand Hotel, formerly the property of the Queen of Spain. Nearly opposite to the Russian church is a celebrated institution, a school or college, for young girls, the excellence of which attracts the children of numerous families. Near the belfry of St. Martin is the Hotel Monnet, with its "Cercle du Leman," a club where English visitors are admitted, and to the left are the Hôtels du Lac and Hotel d'Angleterre. Close by the old Château de la Tour, is the College Sillig, an educational establishment of wide celebrity for boys. The manufacture of Nestlé's milk-food and Ormond "Vevey Fins" cigars are situated in this town. The old English bank of Guenod Churchill is established here. The hotels and pensions are good, and inexpensive; English luxuries are generally to be obtained, as the shopping is good; and there is an English library. The railway passes through the town, and there are three steam-boat piers, having constant communication with the Swiss ports on the lake, and with the opposite or French coast of Savoy.

Mothers, motherly aunts, superior nurses, nursery-governesses, other governesses, and all to whom the care and education of children are a matter of special concern, may almost be said to be morally bound to make themselves acquainted with *Mother's Songs, Games, and Stories*, adapted from the German work of Fröbel, and rendered in English by Frances and Emily Lord (William Rice), an elegant volume to look upon, and a perfect treasury, one would think, of instruction and entertainment for large and small families. It is full of "sweetness and light"—it is calculated to impress upon the minds of mothers and children alike the highest ideas of moral culture. To describe the book is almost impossible; it must be seen to be appreciated. Suffice it to say that the volume contains "the whole of the original illustrations, and the music, rearranged for children's voices, with pianoforte accompaniment." It is not everybody who knows what manner of man Fröbel was, so that a very brief account of him may be welcome. He was born in 1782, and died in 1852; he was a clergyman's son; he became a tutor; he worked under Pestalozzi; he fought for Germany against Napoleon I.; he kept a boys' school; he published the "Education of Man," in 1826; he worked at the education of women and children from 1836 to 1852; he invented the term "Kindergarten," in 1840; he published "Mother's Songs, Games, and Stories," in 1843.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

Original comic operas, written by W. S. Gilbert (Chappell and Co., and Chatto and Windus). We have here eight of those charming pieces in which the wit of the author of the "Bab Ballads" and the musical genius of Sir Arthur Sullivan have been so happily associated, reminding one of the similarly felicitous co-operation of Scribe and Auber in the many works produced jointly by them. The volume now referred to contains "The Sorcerer," "H.M.S. Pinafore," "The Pirates of Penzance," "Iolanthe," "Patience," "Princess Ida," "The Mikado," and "Trial by Jury." This cheap edition of these popular works will no doubt find a large sale.

The Christmas number of Messrs. Boosey and Co.'s cheap series of "Cavendish Music Books" will be welcome in drawing-room circles at this season. It contains a series of dance pieces, in various forms, by well-known composers, clearly engraved and printed.

"Smallwood's Dance Album for Little Folks" (also published by Messrs. Boosey and Co.) will be especially serviceable to juvenile dancers and pianists. Dances in various forms are here presented in easy arrangements, with plentiful indication of the proper fingering.

Metzler and Co.'s "Album of Dance Music" is a collection of ball-room pieces for the pianoforte, that will be especially welcome at this season. For one shilling, a number of bright and tuneful waltzes, polkas, quadrilles, and a galop, by popular composers, are here offered, and will, no doubt, be widely sought for.

Other dance music appropriate to the season is issued by Messrs. Metzler. Mr. A. G. Crowe's "Fairie Voices Waltz" (so successfully performed at the Covent-Garden Promenade Concerts), and another waltz, with vocal parts, "Goosey Gander" (on nursery rhymes), by T. W. Stephenson; and others, for pianoforte only—"Sonnenschein," by Caroline Lowthian; "Mill-Stream," by C. Lasserre; "Dream-Love," by T. Marzials; and "Sixes and Sevens," by P. Bucalossi; "An Elizabethan Dance," by M. Watson; and "The Jersey Lily Polka," by P. Rowe, will all be welcome in dancing circles.

Messrs. Metzler have also issued, in handsome library form, the late Joachim Raff's "Italian Suite," a fine orchestral work, of symphonic proportions, and containing some admirably characteristic music. It consists of five divisions, entitled, respectively, "Overture," "Barcarolle," "Intermezzo," "Notturmo," and "Tarantella," in each of which the composer's inventive genius and masterly command of orchestral colouring are admirably manifested. The "Suite" has been given with great success, under the direction of Mr. Stockley, at the Birmingham Orchestral Concerts, and elsewhere. Messrs. Metzler have issued it in full score, and also arranged for the pianoforte, both for four hands and for two hands. In its arranged shape, it can be had in separate portions. Another piece of the symphonic class, also published by Messrs. Metzler, is Mr. Desmond Ryan's "Toy Symphony," which was performed with great success at one of the Covent-Garden Promenade concerts of the recent season. Symphonies, including the use of children's toy instruments, have been written by Haydn and Bernard Romberg, and Mr. Ryan may be congratulated on having made a welcome addition to the only two works of the kind (we believe) that were before existing. His music is bright and tuneful, with some good touches of humorous character. It is published in full score, and for pianoforte, with parts for strings and for the toy instruments, these last being obtainable of the publishers.

"The Good Old Cause" is a "Constitutional song," composed by Lady Arthur Hill, to some stirring words by Lieutenant-Colonel Dudley Sampson. The music is spirited and martial in style, and well suited for effective declamation. Messrs. Metzler and Co. are the publishers, as also of "Country Courtship," a pleasing song by Louis Diehl; a melodious "Bridal Serenade" (with vocal obbligato), by J. Urich, that has been successfully given at the Promenade Concerts; one of Taubert's beautiful lieder—with English words by H. L. D'Arcy Jaxone—under the title of "Which will it be?" and "Christabel," a very graceful song by Flotow.

"The Children's (Singing) Christmas Quadrilles" (B. Williams) consist of arrangements, by Kate Smith, of popular ditties for the pianoforte, with the words interlined for the co-operation of juvenile vocalists. The quadrilles will be very acceptable to merry young people.

"Art, Ancient and Modern." Under this title, Messrs. Ricordi, of Regent-street, have issued seven volumes of pianoforte music, comprising compositions by many of the best masters of past and present times of the Italian, French, and German schools. The work is neatly engraved and printed, and its cheapness, combined with its intrinsic value, should secure it a very large circulation.

A letter has been sent by the Pope to the English Roman Catholic hierarchy upholding voluntary schools and religious instruction.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a gold watch, awarded by the President of the United States to Captain Michael P. Lund, master of the British steam-ship Durham City, in recognition of his humane services on Aug. 27 last to the water-logged schooner J. G. Ferris.

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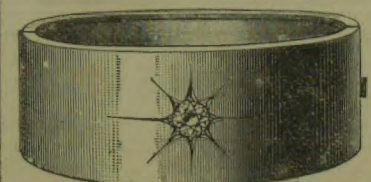
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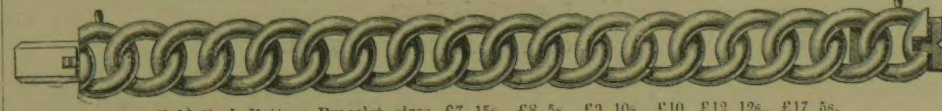
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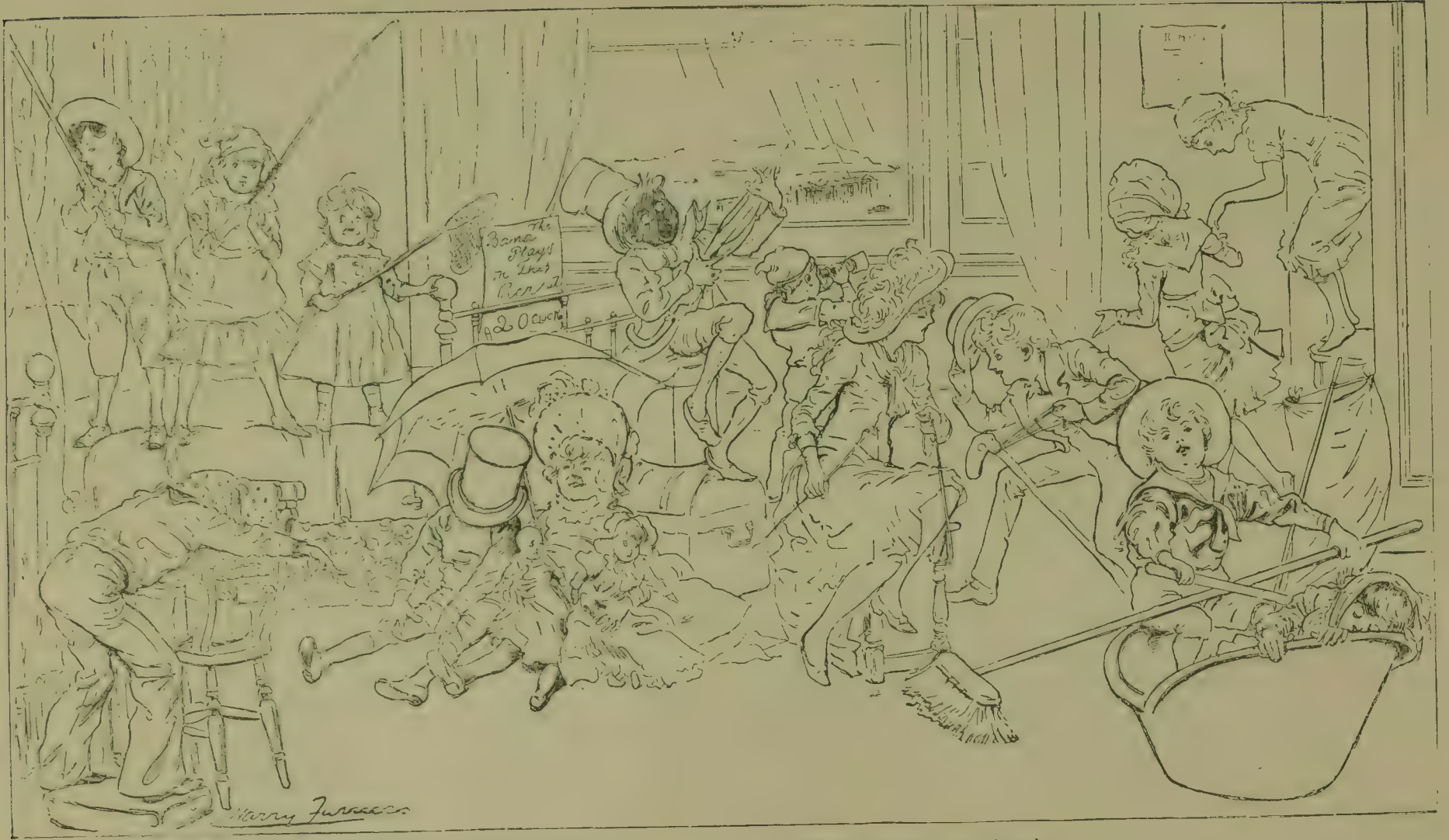
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It rains, it rains! what shall we do?
If we go out, we get wet through.
But never mind, although it pours,
We'll make believe we've sands indoors.

Bedstead and box will form the rocks,
A bath will make a boat;
Bathing-machines, with chairs and screens,
We clearly can denote.

"A WET DAY."—FROM MR. HARRY FURNISS'S "ROMPS AT THE SEASIDE."



Russian Church.

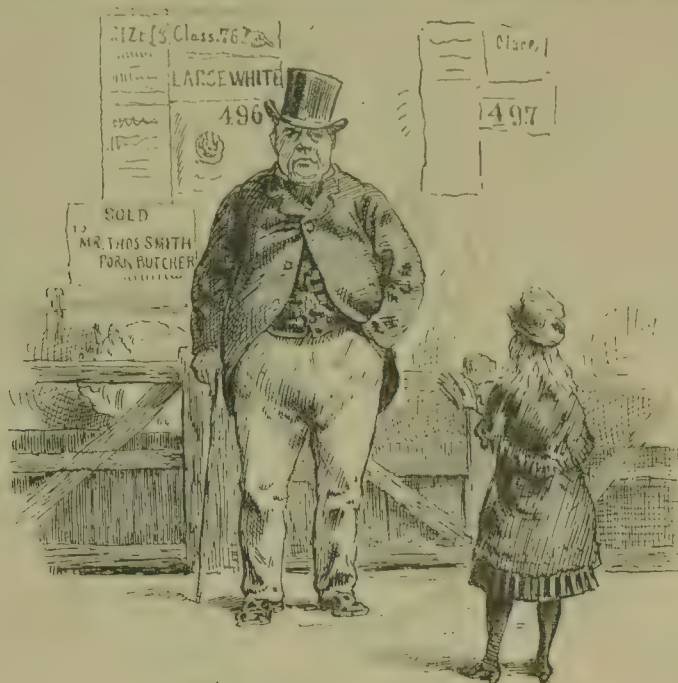
Promenade du Rivage.

Catholic Church.

VEVEY, ON THE LAKE OF GENEVA.



A pointed reminder for an artist.



The piggery



"Sleep, gentle sleep!"



A soft & commodious seat.



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Putting on a high finish



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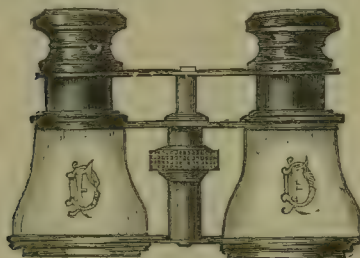
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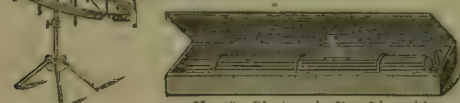
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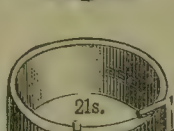
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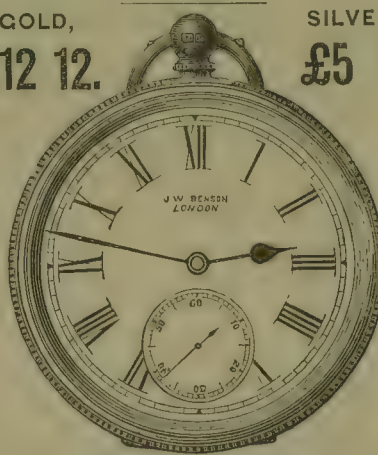
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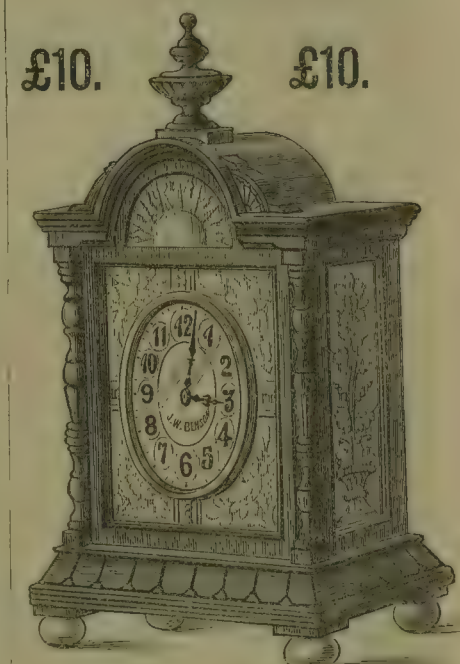


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ARTISTIC GIFT-BOOKS.

Among the illustrated books of artistic and popular interest just published, the *Journal Kept by Richard Doyle in the Year 1840*, when that genial, clever, and personally estimable artist, a master of pictorial comedy and fancy, was a boy of fifteen, is one of the pleasantest gifts to lovers of human nature, art, and harmless fun. With a biographical and critical introduction by Mr. J. Hungerford Pollen, it makes an attractive volume, containing several hundred of Doyle's early sketches; and is published by Messrs. Smith and Elder. A portrait of Doyle, whose talent was a pillar of that truly English national institution, *Punch*, during its best years previous to 1850, till he seceded from its staff, on account of a conscientious scruple, when it assailed the Roman Catholic hierarchy, is prefixed to this volume. His death, two years ago, was regretted by many friends; and he had done enough, in the more poetical and imaginative region of charming fairyland, as well as in wholesome satire of social eccentricities, to earn a place in the ranks of fame. Richard Doyle was of Irish birth, one of several distinguished sons of the eminent political caricaturist "H. B.," and had the advantage of his father's teaching and example. He was encouraged in his youth to report and sketch the public doings in London at that period, two years before the commencement of the *Illustrated London News*; and here is the boy's diary for a twelvemonth, in a facsimile of his neat manuscript, describing in artless and lively language many great and little incidents, some private and domestic, but mostly the sights and shows of town. It is all very good reading for elders who like the spirit and humour of good boys, utterly free from precocious priggishness, and keenly alive to the amusing aspects of a world fresh to their experience; and his contemporaries will be agreeably reminded of what they saw or heard of at the time. The Queen, we feel sure, will be pleased with the sketches of scenes at her marriage with Prince Albert, though not conceived in the style of courtly flattery; and those of processions, military parades and reviews, the Life Guards, the Lord Mayor's coach, the Tower, with its beefeaters and figures in armour, and at some of the theatres, concerts, and picture-exhibitions, are capital specimens of the young artist's drawing. He was already an industrious and useful worker, making designs for a lithographed series, "The Eglinton Tournament," and for "Quentin Durward" and a "History of Belgium," and a set of comic envelopes for post-office letters, which gave him remunerative employment. This volume is to be recommended as an instructive gift to youths who have a talent for drawing, though not one in a hundred thousand will ever be half so clever as the late Richard Doyle.

Having spoken above of Doyle, and *Punch* as it was thirty-five years ago, we take up the newly-printed volume of Messrs. Smith and Elder's standard collected edition of Thackeray's works, which contains all such of that great author's contributions to *Punch* as were not before republished. "Miss Tickletoe's Lectures on English History," "Papers by the Fat Contributor," and various occasional pieces, some of which had not, we think, been previously identified as Thackeray's, with three drolleries in verse, also the "Snob" and "Proser" papers (the former not part of the "Book of Snobs"), have the literary qualities of this vigorous and manly writer, his strong common-sense, humorous perception, and robust moral feeling, but are scarcely to be classed with his more finished works. His own pencil furnishes a great abundance of illustrative drawings, in a manner already familiar to many of his readers, and bearing some affinity, we would suggest, to that of the graphic performances of Tom Hood. A separate series of caricatures by Thackeray is included in the volume.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson is to be congratulated on having been able to place his *Great Painters of Christendom* (Cassell and Co.) within the reach of a larger body of readers than is usually gained for books of such costly preparation, and it is to be hoped that his publishers will reap the reward of their courageous initiative. Mr. Forbes-Robertson, in surveying the history of painting from Cimabue to Wilkie, traces through the principal schools of Europe the influence of its leading masters. The biographical method, which is maintained throughout, not only enables him to illustrate each painter by engravings of some characteristic work, but it spares the reader the weariness often inseparable from long and elaborate discussions on the tendencies or development of each particular school, by substituting an attractive sketch of its chief exponent. By this means the reader may gain a pleasant knowledge of the history of painting during the six hundred years which elapsed between the birth of Cimabue (1240) and the death of Wilkie (1841). He may trace the rise of Italian painting from Cimabue through Giotto, Bellini, Perugino, and others equally famous, until it reached its apogee in Michael Angelo, Titian, and Raffaele; and then, by slow degrees, declined through Correggio, Tintoretto, Paul Veronese to Guido and Carlo Dolci. Turning north of the Alps, he may in like manner follow the progress of Flemish, Dutch, and German art from the two Van Eycks to Angelica Kauffmann. On the history of the French school Mr. Forbes-Robertson is especially interesting and full of varied information, and there is much to be gleaned in his short but bright sketches of Claude Lorraine, Le Brun, Watteau, David, Horace Vernet, and a host of others. The space accorded to the English school is necessarily limited, it being comparatively easy for students to obtain elsewhere fuller details; but his views on Hogarth's work, and the curious phase through which English art passed under Fuseli and Blake, are stated with discrimination and without any of that exaggeration of expression with which of late years it has been the fashion to speak of the latter's productions. The illustrations, of which there is a generous profusion, are necessarily of varying interest and value; but the vignette portraits which adorn the life of each artist are, without exception, excellent, and, so far as we can recall, correct reproductions of the originals. Taken as a whole, the volume is one which does equal credit to the editor and his publishers, and should rank among the successful gift-books of the season.

The need for a seventh edition of Dr. Théodore Graesse's *Guide de l'Amateur de Porcelaines* (Dresden: G. Schoenfeld; London: D. Nutt and Co.) is evidence that the taste for collecting "bric-à-brac" has not sensibly declined, although connoisseurs may be more difficult to please than they once were. Dr. Graesse, who formerly held the post of Director of the "Green Vaults" and of the Ceramic Collections at Dresden, has done more than almost anyone to reduce to a system and then to popularise the various marks by which fabrics and potters may be identified. His remarkably useful and portable guide, first published in 1864, the pioneer of numerous less successful imitations, is too well known to need any special recommendation; but we refer to this new edition, as containing a far more elaborate and, perhaps, the first perfect index of all the various marks known on what is called "Dresden" china. In his first edition, Dr. Graesse had recognised only twelve distinct monograms or marks on Dresden porcelain; he now gives us ninety. And, in like manner, the number of marks reproduced (with great fidelity) is 2561, as compared with 387 in the first edition.

The South Kensington Museum Art Handbooks are written

for the purposes of the student rather than of the collector; and Professor Church's volume on *English Porcelain* (Chapman and Hall) is no exception to this wholesome rule. The history of English porcelain, although it does not go back to very remote periods, is, nevertheless, somewhat obscure. The true kaolin, or china-clay, was discovered by William Cookworthy, at Tregonning Hill, and elsewhere, in Cornwall, about 1755, and to his patent we are indebted for what is known among collectors as "Plymouth" china. There was, however, already in existence a manufactory at Chelsea, whence came two pieces of the well-known "goat and bee" pattern, bearing the date 1745, which are still in existence. The Chelsea works were under the management of two Flemings—Charles Gouyn and Nicolas Sprimont—and, doubtless, they brought with them a knowledge of manufacture and decoration of "hard-paste" from the Continent, where, from the close of the seventeenth century, it had been rapidly rising in excellence and esteem. Another foreigner, who did much for the establishment of an English school of porcelain, was Count Brancas-Lauraguais, who probably worked at Chelsea, and whose patent, dated 1766, preceded Cookworthy's by two years. It is not improbable, too, that the resumption of work at Chelsea in 1759 was in some measure due to the Count's energy, and the revival of its popularity to the decorations which he personally designed. The works at Bow were probably established about 1744 by Edward Heylyn and Thomas Frye—the latter being described in the patent as a painter. They continued in the hands of the Crowther family until 1764, and seem to have been continued until 1776, when they were purchased by W. Duesbury, of Derby, and the moulds and models sent there. As to the exact date of the first starting of porcelain works at Derby, there is considerable doubt, for in 1755 one Andrew Planché, a foreign resident, is described as "a china-maker." It is difficult to connect this person with his namesake, who joined Duesbury in 1756, in which year, however, there was an auction by the proprietors of the Derby Porcelain Manufactory of figures, &c., "after the finest Dresden models." It is customary to distinguish the several periods of the Derby factory by the terms Derby (1751 (?)–69), Chelsea-Derby (1769–84), Crown Derby (1773–1815), and Bloor Derby (1815–31), with the interval of Duesbury and Kean in 1795. Worcester, the fifth of the large china manufactories, owes its origin to the joint energy of Dr. John Wall, physician, and Mr. William Davis, apothecary, who, in 1751, entered into partnership for carrying on the "Worcester Tonquin manufactory." The original company, fifteen in number, continued business after Dr. Wall's death, in 1776, until 1783, when the whole of their works were disposed of to their London agent, Mr. Flight. The old period of Worcester porcelain closed in 1793, when Mr. Barr was admitted as a partner. During its course it had passed through two distinct phases; that of Chinese and Japanese designs, terminating in 1768; and the Dresden and Sèvres period, extending from 1768 to 1783. After the admission of Mr. Barr, the artistic beauty of the decoration fell off, although the pottery remained excellent. There seems to have been little or no change until 1840, when Messrs. Flight and Barr joined with Messrs. Chamberlain, who had originally set up in business in 1783. In 1847 this partnership was dissolved, and the original factory ceased. Mr. Lilley and Mr. Kerr subsequently became partners, and were joined, in 1852, by Mr. Binns—an arrangement which lasted ten years, when the "Worcester Royal Porcelain Company, Limited," took the place of the old-established private firms. The date of the founding of the Bristol manufactory is very obscure. Porcelain may have been made there as early as 1753; but it is not until 1765 that we have any direct evidence of experiments being made there by Richard Champion on clay brought from South Carolina. This factory was but short-lived; but, after an interval of three years, it was revived; and in 1770 W. Cookworthy removed his Plymouth factory to Bristol, and, in conjunction with Champion—or, effacing himself behind his partner—the business was carried on until 1781 with varying success, when it was finally closed for want of support, and the patent transferred to the Staffordshire firm. It is unnecessary here to pursue the history of the modern factories—the so-called Lowestoft, Pinxton, Nantgarw, Caughley, Rockingham, and others. A visit to the Museum of Practical Geology, in Jermyn-street, where the whole history of English pottery and porcelain may be followed, or to the South Kensington Museum, where some of the most remarkable products of our numerous "schools" are to be found, will supply the necessary information. We recommend those who seek for a more intimate knowledge of these works to take in their hand Professor Church's delightful handbooks.

Among the art gift-books of the season, Mr. Croston's edition of *Chantrey's Peak Scenery* (Derby: Frank Murray; London: Hamilton, Adams and Co.) deserves to occupy a high place, especially with those to whom the beauties of Derbyshire are familiar. These sketches, twenty-nine in number, were, with four exceptions, made by Chantrey, "the English Pheidias," during his annual holidays. He was connected by ties of birth and long association with Dovedale; and when, emerging from his early struggles, he had conquered for himself a position in life, he would, in his intervals of leisure, set off for the Peak country with his fly-rod and sketch-book. Whether he was as successful as a fisherman as he was a sculptor is open to considerable doubt; but that he was an ardent lover of nature, as well as of art, is beyond question; and it is not improbable that the idea of calling attention to the beauties of the Peak district originated with his friend Mr. Rhodes, of Sheffield; and that for some years prior to 1817 it had been the habit of the two friends to spend their holidays together in wandering about the Derbyshire dales. Mr. Rhodes wrote the descriptions of the spots Chantrey was sketching, and these the brothers Cooke, known to all Turner collectors, etched on copper. The original edition of Rhodes's work, as it is called, has long since been out of the reach of all but the most elastic purses. Very few copies were struck off, and these were, at the outset, sold at a large price. The plates having lately come into Mr. Frank Murray's possession, they are now reproduced, with historical descriptions, by Mr. James Croston, F.S.A.; and the brightness of the impressions, especially in the case of Stony Middleton, the Approach to Peak's Hole, Monsel Dale, and others fully justifies his belief that Chantrey's reputation as a draughtsman will be increased by a more popular knowledge of this almost forgotten work.

In a sumptuous volume, which shows to what perfection printing in colours may be brought, Mrs. Francis Sinclair discourses pleasantly on the *Indigenous Flowers of the Hawaiian Islands* (London: Sampson Low, Marston, and Co.). She limits herself, indeed, to the simplest description of the flowers of which such vivid representations are given; but it is easy by their help to picture to oneself the charms and beauties of the rocks and woods of these islands. If only the lotus plant were in reality as attractive as the poets make it in verse, we might look for it on the Hawaiian hill-tops or amongst its rocky crevices; but if it grow there it has escaped Mrs. Sinclair's notice, and she finds in the lovely varieties of the hibiscus, or haw, as it is locally called, the rough white poppy (called the Puakala), and the bright leaves and berries of the ukiuki (Diannella

ensifolia) enough to make the landscape beautiful at every turn. The most emblematic flower of the Hawaiian islands, however, is the Ohia-lehua (*Metrosideros polymorpha*), which is to be seen in all sizes from a shrub to a forest-tree a hundred feet high, and, for the most part of the year, decked with its bright orange and scarlet leaves or covered with its honey-laden flowers, round which the brilliant-plumaged "olokeles" are constantly flitting. A much rarer plant—in fact, it is only to be found at high altitudes, and then very sparsely distributed—is the Kolokolo-kuchiwi (*Lysimachia Hildebrandi*). It bears rich purple flowers, not very unlike the cyclamen in shape, and, like it, has a very delicate scent. The natives have an interesting superstition regarding this plant, saying that when the flower is plucked the "tears of Heaven" (the rain) fall. There is, altogether, much information to be drawn from the letterpress of this interesting volume, which, nevertheless, must rest its chief claim to recognition on its admirably executed flower-drawings; and the reproduction of them by Messrs. Leighton is an additional proof of the pre-eminence in colour-printing obtained by that firm, and recognised by publishers of all nations as unrivalled.

A topographical subject of unflinching interest to English people, *Windsor, a Description of the Castle, Park, Town, and Neighbourhood*, is treated in the volume published by Messrs. Seeley and Co., for which the Rev. W. J. Loftie, author of "The History of London," has written a sound antiquarian dissertation. Twelve full-page illustrations, comprising a photograph of Beehm's statue of her Majesty, some good etchings and engraved plates, drawn by Messrs. H. Railton, E. Hull, F. Slocombe, Heywood Hardy, and others, with a great number of vignettes, which are correct as views and pleasing in execution, adorn this meritorious work. The same publishers have issued another volume of kindred and neighbouring subject, *Isis and Thamesis, Hours on the River from Oxford to Henley*; the descriptive text written by a scholarly author, the Rev. Alfred Church, M.A., of Lincoln College; the illustrations consisting of twelve good etchings of scenery and thirty or forty vignettes. University men, Thames boatmen, and their friends, and all who love the noble stream that flows by the head and heart of England, should be glad to possess a book of this kind.

The success which attended Mr. Ernest Jessop in his illustrations of the "Jackdaw of Rheims" and the "Lay of St. Aloys" has induced him to illustrate another Ingoldsby Legend, *The Knight and the Lady* (Eyre and Spottiswoode). The volume is handsomely got up, and carefully printed; and on many pages there are delightful ideas harmonising with the quaint conceits of the poetry. This legend, however, does not, from its domestic setting, lend itself so readily to Mr. Jessop's pencil, and he too frequently contents himself with a mere "Rebus" rendering of the text. It may be urged that a painter has no right to be more imaginative than the poet whom he seeks to illustrate; but, at the same time, there is no need that he should translate poetry into prose.

A new volume of *Picturesque Europe* (Cassell and Co., Limited), with very fine engravings on steel and wood, drawn by Birket Foster, Harry Fenn, Carl Werner, R. P. Leitch, W. H. J. Boot, J. D. Woodward, P. Skelton, L. J. Wood, and E. Senior, has recently been published. It sets before our eyes the natural scenery and architecture of Auvergne and Dauphiné, and of the Meuse, with Sedan, in France; of several old German towns, Lübeck, Hanover, Lüneburg, Hildesheim, Goslar, Wurzbourg, and Nuremberg; of the Black Forest; of Naples, Pompeii, Vesuvius, Sorrento, Capri, Salerno, and Amalfi; of the Norwegian fjords and waterfalls, with Bergen and Trondhjem; of Madrid, Toledo, Seville, and other cities in Spain; of the Lake of Geneva; of Lombardy, Tuscany, and the Romagna, of Calabria and Sicily; and part of the Channel Islands. There are thirteen steel plates, engraved by Willmore, Greatbach, J. J. Crew, Godfrey, S. Bradshaw, T. Heawood, Joubert, Bertrand, and Krausse. The writers of the descriptive chapters are the Rev. T. G. Bonney, Oscar Browning, G. W. Turner, W. Mattieu Williams, Arthur Griffiths, T. W. Hinchliff, W. H. Rideing, and G. A. Smith. This volume is a worthy sequel to those which had appeared before.

A purely literary interest, combined with the personal regard for distinguished authors, whose photographs, the best that could be procured, ornament the book and accompany the instructive reading, is gratified by the collection of *Prose Masterpieces of Modern Essayists* (Bickers and Son). The authors, twelve in number, are Washington Irving, Charles Lamb, and De Quincey (their portraits are photographed from paintings), Carlyle, Emerson, Matthew Arnold, James Russell Lowell, Lord Macaulay, J. A. Froude, E. A. Freeman, John Morley, and the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the late Prime Minister occupying the frontispiece, but coming last with his thoughtful essay on "Kin beyond Sea." Mr. John Morley's style is well represented by his discourse on "Popular Culture," and Mr. Arnold's way of thinking is shown by his famous eulogy of the mental qualities of "Sweetness and Light." Professor Freeman is happy in his remarks on "Race and Language"; and three other eminent historians are invoked for their general views of the functions of "History."

The poetry as well as the prose of Goldsmith is still in deserved favour; but it may be questioned whether his *Hermit of the Dale*, a simple ballad of no great power to interest the mind, and no originality of conception, is of sufficient value to merit an elaborate series of artistic illustrations. Mr. Walter Shirlaw's designs, engraved by F. Jüngling, in a volume printed on fine thick paper and issued by J. B. Lippincott and Co., may suit the taste of some persons, who may also care more for the poem than we do.

The idea of republishing a "Christmas Book" dating from eighty years back is altogether ingenious, as showing, by way of contrast, not only the change in our tastes, but in the moral lessons adapted for children's use then and now. This reason, however, would scarcely justify the revival of *The Looking-Glass*, by Theophilus Marcliffe (Bemrose and Sons, London and Derby), were it not for the valuable light thrown upon it by its new editor, Mr. F. G. Stephens. "The Looking-Glass," it would seem, was written by William Godwin, who, knowing that his name was not likely to attract a wide public as the teacher of morals to youth, assumed a pseudonym for this and many similar productions. But the story has a still greater interest, inasmuch as Mr. Stephens suggests, after careful investigation, that the story is really an autobiography of the early years of Mulready, the artist, which Godwin worked up into a child's story-book, with the object of "cultivating emulation in youthful minds." Mr. Stephens' lucid notes give historic value to the facsimile reprint of a little work which will now take its proper place in artistic bibliography.

The best of all gift-books to mankind, the gift of God through Jesus Christ, if the heart be ready to receive it, is the *Sermon on the Mount*; of which an illustrated edition, with an instructive preface by the Bishop of Ripon, itself a sound sermon of Christian divinity, has been published by Hodder and Stoughton. The sacred text is engraved in clear engrossed letters of antique form, surrounded by decorative borders of fine design, which are varied in each page. These are the work of Mr. Sidney L. Smith, and the other engravings are drawn by Mr. Charles Copeland. Mr. G. T. Andrew has directed the artistic work.



PHOTOGRAPH FROM LIFE: OUR GIRLS.

BY J. THOMSON.



PHOTOGRAPH FROM LIFE: OUR BOYS.
BY J. THOMSON.

THE COLOURED ILLUSTRATION TO OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

The "North-West Passage," of which we present a Coloured Engraving with our Christmas Number, will, for many reasons, be always regarded as one of Sir John Millais' most popular and most successful works. Painted in 1873, and exhibited for the first time at the Royal Academy Exhibition of the following year, it marks the moment when the artist had broken altogether with the symbolism and mannerism which characterised so many of his earlier works. He had been gradually approaching a broader and simpler treatment of his subjects since his picture of "The Romans Leaving Britain." In the interval, he had painted, among many others, "The Minuet" (1866), in which his sympathy with children was first displayed; "The Boyhood of Raleigh" (1869), where he seized with marvellous power a subject which could not fail to arouse interest; and "Chill October" (1871), his first and perhaps most successful landscape, the recollection of which makes us often think that we would willingly have sacrificed some of Sir John Millais' figures, admirable and varied though they are, for a few more interpretations of Nature as shown in this work, in the "Fringe of the Moor" (1875), and in "Over the Hills and Far Away" (1876).

To return, however, to the "North-West Passage," of which the bright colours and strong contrast did not shock even the fastidious Parisian critics, who at the Paris Universal Exhibition of 1867 hailed it as one of the masterpieces of English contemporary art. The picture tells its own tale. In the library of a seaside house, an old sailor and his daughter are seated: he before a table, on which are spread his old charts, and she at his feet, reading, perhaps for the fiftieth time, the story, as told in one of his own log-books, of how he nearly solved that problem which for three centuries and more has proved so fascinating and so fatal to many of our most intrepid captains. Or perhaps she is reading the story of Sir Hugh Willoughby, Sir John Frobisher, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, among the ancients, or of Ross, Parry, and Franklin among moderns—all heroes of peaceful conquests won at the cost of energy and endurance, combined with daring and self-denial, qualities which made the English Navy rank so high in the world's esteem. To some, if not all, these qualities could that extraordinary man, Mr. Edward John Trelawny, of whom this is the only authentic portrait known, lay claim. His life, from its outset, had been adventurous. At the age of eleven he had gone to sea, and made himself a name so rapidly that, before Byron or Shelley were known, except to their intimates, Trelawny was "a literary lion" of the fashionable world. He soon became intimate with the two poets; and he was the last person to see Shelley alive, quitting him only as he went on board his yacht for the last time. It was Trelawny, too, who carried out the poet's wishes by burning his body on the shore of the Bay of Spezia, and conveying the ashes to Rome. He then joined Lord Byron, and shared with his enthusiasm for the emancipation of Greece. With Lord Byron, he went to Ithaca, and thence was dispatched to Athens, where he became Aide-de-Camp to Odysseus (Ulysses), one of the chiefs of the revolt, whose daughter he married, and with whom he went through the campaign, escaping assassination, starvation, and every other accident by good fortune or by courage. Other details of the picture, however, attract our attention. The young girl seated on the ground recalls a face which at various times appears in Sir J. Millais' works of this period, and has been recognised as that of his eldest daughter. The walls of the room

are decorated with the trophies of a sailor's campaign—not always peaceful ones—against the forces of Nature, as the faded French flags which droop so naturally, and seem to understand their fate. The mahogany furniture, with its worn leather; the green baize on the table, rendered with so much truthfulness, just recall Mr. Millais' passage through the training of the Pre-Raphaelite school. But these details are subordinate to the general effect; whilst the glimpse of landscape through the open window is as shadowy and imaginative as the vaguest dreamer could desire.

OUR GIRLS.

The two good little girls, who stand clinging to each other for mutual encouragement, in the presence of a patronising strange visitor, are evidently affected with a slight fit of shyness; but it does not amount to fear. A merry twinkle of the eyes lights up the smiling face of the elder, who occupies the main position in this pretty group, lovingly embracing the shoulders of her thoughtful friend; but in the countenance of the latter we read much firmness of character and faculty of grave observation. They will soon be reconciled to any person who really deserves the confidence of the young, who is sincere; above all, open and straightforward—the qualities which children are best able to judge. It would be delightful to watch their gradual approach to freedom of conversation, after they have been left awhile to make up their own minds about the new people, and to feel themselves in sociable safety. The quickness with which these small ladies can learn the ways of the world is truly wonderful; and their private opinion of important personages among the parental acquaintance, despite all affectation and conventionality of manner, is usually not far wrong. With regard to some points of merit—those which concern the moral disposition and motives of the heart—it is often well to rely upon the involuntary and unconscious signs of the favour or dislike conceived for them by innocent children. Shyness, however, is no sign of disapproval, but more commonly of reverence, and of a coming love which shall be deeper and stronger than that of mere liking. In this aspect, it is a hopeful and agreeable feature of youthful behaviour, provided it does not last too long, and is accompanied with some discrimination.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has appointed Mr. O'Keefe, a Nationalist, High Sheriff of the city of Limerick for the ensuing year.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has sanctioned the expenditure of over £3000 on the deodorisation works for the treatment of sewage at Crossness. The draught of a bill empowering the Board to raise for fire brigade purposes a sum equal to what would be produced by a penny rate on the rateable annual value of property in the metropolis has also been approved.

The Marquis of Lorne presided at a large meeting, held in the Kensington Townhall yesterday week, to consider the continuance or closing of the West London Hospital at Hammer-smith. Sir Algernon Borthwick, M.P., moved a resolution expressing the earnest wish of the meeting that there should be no closing of the hospital or curtailing of its assistance to the sick poor until a strenuous effort were made to avoid such a calamity. This was seconded by the Hon. and Rev. Carr Glyn, supported by others, and carried unanimously; and several donations and subscriptions were promised.

THE SQUIRE'S DAUGHTER.

The young lady with her Prayer-Book, just entering the village church, has a family right to feel herself quite at home anywhere in the village, of which her respected father is the principal owner. There is not man, woman, or child in the parish who does not know Miss Helen, and there are few labourers' cottages to which she has not often been a kindly visitor. The Rector, who christened her twenty years ago, finds her the best of Sunday-school teachers, and she loves the company of his good wife and daughters. Her face looks bright, happy, and clever, and we cannot doubt that she is everybody's friend, and deservedly popular in the neighbourhood. So, as she modestly walks into the church, dressed with an easy but not ungraceful negligence, and forgetting the pretty ornament of a feather in her hat, there is no air of coquetry about her; but her presence is sure to please. In another moment, she will be the most serious and devout of worshippers, and her womanly heart will swell with love and gratitude to the Giver of Good, and with Christian charity to all mankind. Such are many of the young ladies of England—living peaceful, useful, and honoured lives in the liberally-managed country houses of our rural gentry, succeeding in due time, let us hope, to the position of British matrons, with every privilege of domestic and social rank to which they were born, and helping to keep up the harmony of mutual trust and goodwill between all classes in the nation. "Woman's Rights," in town or country life, can yield no fairer fruit than the preservation of this type of feminine grace and goodness.

OUR BOYS: HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

If naughty boys are troublesome, good, frank, dutiful boys are pleasant inmates of a well-ordered home. Their high spirits and hopeful cheerfulness, their eager zest for novelty and adventure, their intelligent curiosity about manly performances and pursuits, freshen the social atmosphere and enliven the minds of elders who are jaded in the routine ways of the world. When a boy is well-bred, considerate of others, gentle to ladies, and duly respectful to his superiors in age, he is the most agreeable example of the character of a true gentleman; for he has no artificial and hypocritical politeness, and his courtesy is free from calculating motives. Thousands of brave and honest English youths come home from the public schools, or from preparatory or second-class schools, conducted in the same wise and generous spirit, to pass their Christmas holidays with the father and mother, the brothers and sisters, and in the circle of friendly neighbours who miss their presence during the months devoted to study. It should be, as we trust it generally is, a happy time of wholesome recreation, of growing domestic affection, rising year by year to higher sentiments of mutual esteem and sympathy, and of increased practical wisdom from the widening experience of life. Everything in the future, the welfare of this country, and in a great measure that of other nations, will depend on the character of our boys—and of our girls, who are not likely to be forgotten. The young fellows are most welcome: only, let them behave with propriety, and there is no grown-up person in the house, or within the range of acquaintance, who will not endeavour to please them; to gratify all healthy and innocent tastes, to put them in the way of robust winter sports (no even wish for a hard frost, that they may enjoy skating); and so we heartily bid them a Happy Christmas, a Happy New Year, and, some day in January, a willing return to school.

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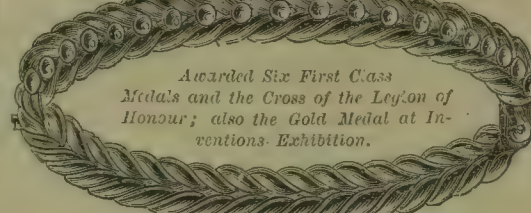
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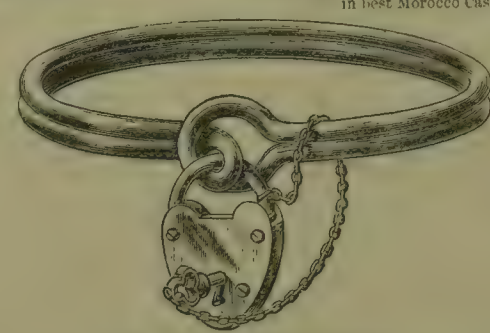
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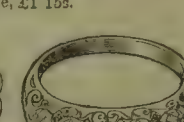
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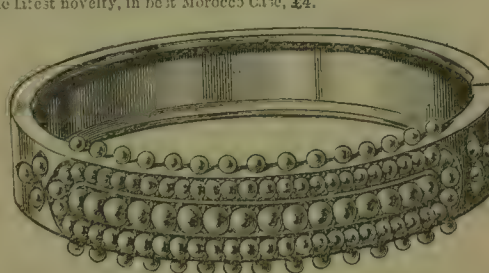
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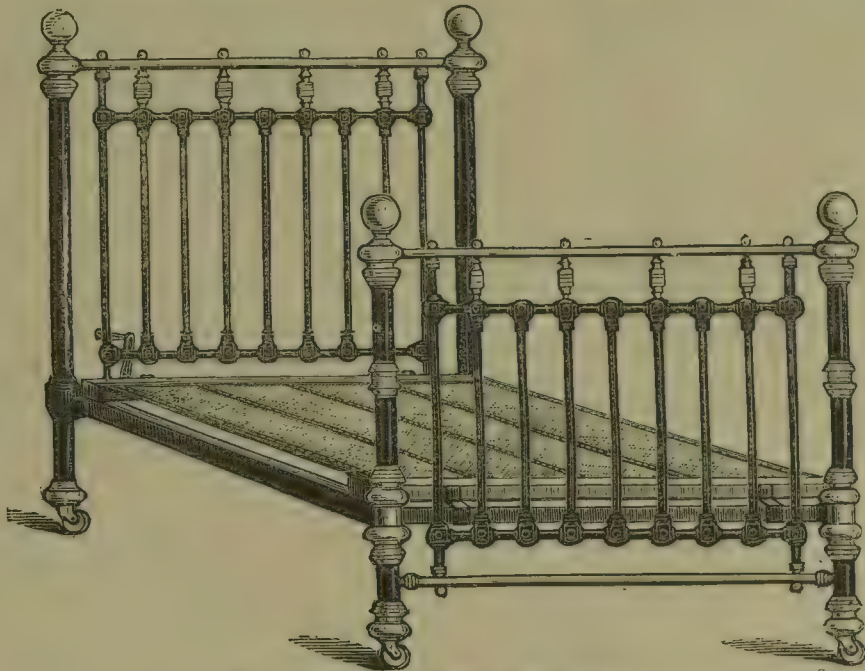
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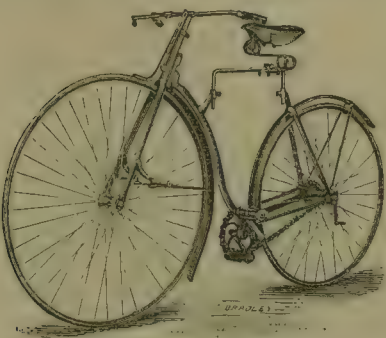


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'Tis little I have to say;
The sun has set by the old church tower,
The birds have flown away,
But my story is very short, lass,
And maybe you've heard it before!
'Tis only this, that I love thee,
And none could love thee more."
But she turned her head at the words he said,
And he heard her softly say—
"There's someone else who loves me, lad,
Many a mile away!"

"Then good-bye to my happy dream, lass,
'Tis little that I can say;
For the light of my life is darkened,
Now hope has flown away.
'Tis little I have to offer,
But I ask one gift of thee:
A tress of thy golden hair, lass,
To take far over the sea."
But she turned her head at the words he said,
And he heard her softly say—
"What should I say to someone, lad,
Many a mile away?"

"Then wish me a last 'God speed,' lass,
'Tis little enough to say;
For never again will thou and I
Meet in the same old way;
'Twas little I had to offer,
But just the love of my life,
Yet I wish 'God speed' to somebody else,
To him, and his bonnie wife."
Then she turned her head at the words he said,
And she laid her face on his breast,
"Thou' there's somebody else who loves me, lad,
There's someone that I love best!"

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"On an eminence commanding the beach they could hear the sudden hiss of the rocket."



"He turned round, and then she saw the loved features of the man she had mourned as dead."

"COME BACK TO ME!"

TALE BY CLEMENT SCOTT.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

"COME BACK TO ME!" A STORY OF THE SEA.

BY CLEMENT SCOTT.

"Father! don't you hear? there's a wreck! Listen!"

Nothing could deceive the quick ears of Maida, the only daughter of old Starling, of the Mill Farm. She was the idol of that simple household; the ruling spirit of that humble cottage by the sea. On the dark winter nights when the good father had gone a long journey on business, and it was lonesome enough for the pretty girl, however busy with her many household duties, Maida had only to open the door into the garden and listen as she leaned over the white gate in the pitch darkness, and miles away she could detect the even trot of the old grey pony.

"All right! Father will soon be home!" she would say, and by the time the farmer's trap was unharnessed and put away, the supper would be ready on the table, and the fire roaring up the chimney as the wind came wailing over the cliffs from sea or beating the red brick face of the pretty homestead in its mad career across from the distant hills.

It was Christmas Eve. The old farmer had been dozing over the fire, looking earnestly into the glowing coals and thinking over Christmases past and gone, as old men invariably do; and by his side the gentle fair-haired daughter had her reverie also of love and affection and duty. Sometimes she thought of her dull life in the old farm, and perhaps sighed silently for the flaunting town, as is the custom with young maidens, who, luckily, know so little of the world. Sometimes in her heart of hearts she brooded over the one disappointment of her life, when she nerved herself for the struggle, and sent the man she loved best in the world from her side to sea, hoping to reform him of his folly, and to cure herself of her blind infatuation at the same time; sometimes, also, looking round the old home where she was born, where her mother lived and died, where her gentle, honest love first bloomed into a flower, and where she knew her duty lay, she looked, affectionately, at the white head of the kind old man who was more a brother to her than a father—her trusted companion, and her faithful friend.

Maida was right: it was a wreck indeed. In an instant she was in the garden, and watching by the white farm-gate. The Cromer men, with their captain at their head, all with their life-belts on, had hurried over the lighthouse cliff, and had joined the cart with the rocket apparatus, that had been ordered out. The fishermen at Overstrand, who knew every inch of the coast, every pathway in the soft clay cliffs, had joined the procession of relief; and even the tap-room of the "White Horse" had been emptied of its idlers, who shook themselves together and exchanged the dregs of beer and the fumes of tobacco for the howling wind that blew in gusts and tempests on shore, and made a hideous din in the wild winter night. All the women of the fishing villages were at the cottage-doors bidding good luck and godspeed to their fathers and husbands and sons, who in less than a second had pulled on their sea-boots, and were hurrying along to the only safe pathway to the beach, under the old Church Tower, that stands alone in the deserted churchyard on the sea cliffs of Sidestrand.

The life-boat men, the fishermen, the volunteers, and the idlers, with their ropes and lanterns, had to pass the gate of the old Mill Farm. Be sure that Maida soon knew what had happened. Maida knew everything. Thanks to her, the old farm was a cottage hospital. Old women and middle-aged women came to Maida when they had any ailments. She lent them coal in the winter and sold them flour in the summer. Maida was an encyclopædia of knowledge. She knew everybody's secrets, and was the trusted depository of all the village troubles. So that a wreck on the Sidestrand cliffs without Maida Starling to the front was an impossibility, and that they all knew perfectly well. If a helping hand had been required in the life-boat, I verily believe that Maida would have been the Grace Darling; if the poor half-drowned and dying sailors had required a gentle nurse, Maida, I am confident, would have acted as a second Florence Nightingale.

It had been blowing a tremendous gale all day; such a gale as no sailor forgets who has ever had any experience of this wild corner of the Norfolk sea-coast. Little indeed do the holiday-makers know, who in summer-time sun themselves among the red poppies and yellow sea-daisies, how it can blow on the exposed promontory by the old Church Tower! The cliffs are tolerably high at this point; but the sailors, who all the afternoon had been standing at the "look-out" on the corner of the cliff corn-fields, had been beaten and buffeted by the sea and sand that were torn from the angry beach and lashed their faces. A woman could scarcely stand at the edge of Overstrand village.

At sunset a homeward-bound English vessel had drifted on shore near Sherringham. She was doomed, and no one exactly knew where she would break up. Faithful and honest hands were waiting her at every point as she tore through the shallow water and drifted nearer and nearer to her inevitable fate. The Sherringham men were ready with their life-boat, manned by the bravest on the coast. At Cromer they thought that the ill-fated vessel would come crashing against the piles of the wooden pier, or split to pieces on the breakwater, so they got the rocket apparatus ready, and down came the coastguard-men from their black and white cottage at the corner of Cromer town. But the ship missed Cromer, and away she drifted helplessly along the shore. Now where would be the end? At Overstrand, where the cliffs were lined with anxious women, or at distant Trimmingham, where the good old parson was ready with the sailors to render any assistance in his power? No: the vessel could not last till Trimmingham, and the sailors who had raced from Cromer over the grassy down and among the withered fern predicted that the best way of saving life would be to drag the rocket apparatus down the cliff at the old Church Tower, that still stands as a signal on the chart to the mariner, and is always used in mid-winter as a mortuary for the poor sailors washed on shore.

Maida's old father had rushed out at the back of the farm over the fields to the cliff's edge with one of the Sidestrand sailors, and he was able to report progress to the life-boat men as they hurried along by the front of the house.

"She will break up at the old Church Tower, lads! There is an easy pathway down to the sea."

The awful wind silenced the rest of what he said, and the rescue party rushed by the adjacent farm, through the village, and so to the exposed cliff.

Maida was not long in pursuit: why should not a woman be useful at such a time? It seemed heartless to remain warm and comfortable by the Christmas fire when men were risking their lives, and a deep cry for help was in the air. It was barely half a mile from the quiet mill cottage to the old Church Tower. The road was between two sheltered hedges until you came to the exposed cliff; and yet, as Maida hurried along under the mill, with the wind screaming through its sails, round the corner of the Manor Farm, that shelters so many visitors in summer-time, through the village, where even the children had crept out of bed and peered at the young girl from the cottage garden, as she hurried on with a shawl cast over her head, it seemed to her as if she had lived a lifetime.

They say that a drowning man sees mirrored before him the love and hate, the pleasure and the sin, of his whole existence, before he sinks for the last time. Imagination is curiously vivid in its instantaneous effects. Lucky for her that Maida was alone; for she had time to think. She thought of many things. Of her life—aimless, profitless, unsatisfactory, as it seemed to her at that moment; of the friends of her own age, who were married, independent, and presumably happy; of a life in the dull monotonous country as compared to one in the busy throbbing town; of a comparison between a farmer's daughter and a hospital nurse; of the old father, whose life and comfort were part of her existence; lastly, of the one deep secret of her life—young Frederick Moore.

She had loved this man. He was wild, reckless, ungovernable—but still she loved him. His character in the neighbourhood was bad, his habits were indefensible—but still she loved him. In her heart, though she could scarcely explain them as yet, she had grand ideas how she could reform, tame, and humanise a bad man. Her nature was protective; her aim was earnest. Young Fred Moore, the farmer, was known all the district round as a scamp. Very few had a good word to say for him. He loved freedom, and air, and light, and nature. A fine fellow, a good sportsman, a charming companion, he did everything in the world but "get on." And yet this careless, reckless, ne'er-do-weel had his happier moments, which a good woman could discover. Maida had a strange influence over him. For her he would leave sporting parties and drinking parties: for her sake he would steady himself, only to be led away again by silly friends and contemptible companions. It was kept a secret, this love of theirs. The old farmer knew nothing definite; the villagers only dimly suspected. The man wanted the woman's wholesome guidance; the woman, with her weary, aimless life, desired nothing better than the moral mastery of the man. There was something masterful in his nature that she loved to tame; there was a deep tenderness in hers that he longed to understand. Their meeting-place was at the old Church Tower. It was a melancholy, uncanny spot to the majority of the visitors; but they loved no place better. Here in summer-time they wandered among the forgotten grave-stones, seeing the sun set over the sea; here in winter-time they might be found awed by the mysterious silence and fascinated by the comfort of its desolation.

It was here that they had parted, in this very churchyard under the solitary grey tower. They loved one another, but marriage between them was hopeless. It was a question with Maida whether the parting should be irrevocable or indefinite. She loved him so deeply that she could not refuse to give him hope. It was at moments like these that all the best part of the man's nature came out, and she wondered as she looked at him how she could ever let him go. For it was arranged that the handsome Fred should go abroad, cut himself adrift from his old associations, and start clear in another country. Hard as it was, it was "best for her and best for him." But they made one solemn compact together as they parted at the very place at which they had met so often.

"I love you, Maida! on my soul I do," said the young man, really affected when he thought of the old country he was leaving behind, of the dull, dead prospect before him, of the long voyage, and of the friendlessness that awaited him. "If you had not insisted, I should not have gone. I know I am a worthless man, that my life is just what it should not be, and that I am not doing any good here. But promise me, by your dear face, if you ever cared for me, that you will send for me when you are in trouble, that you will call me back if you are in distress, that you will rejoice with me if I succeed in the strange country to which I am going."

"I promise you," she said, "faithfully. I will do as you ask."

"What shall the sign be?"

"Wherever you are, no matter in what corner of the world, will you come when I send for you?" she asked.

"I will. I swear it. As I hope in the future to be worthy of you."

"What shall the sign be?" and he kissed her tenderly.

Only four words, "Come back to me!"

And so they parted, and no one knew their secret. She thought it for the best, and she had strength to bear this burden on her young life. There was no sister in whom she could confide, no friend she dared trust. For the first time in her life there was something locked in her heart to which even her old father was denied the key. And when the emigrant-ship was steaming out of the Mersey with the young Englishman aboard, and the lighthouse lamp could be seen from the garden of the old Mill Farm, Maida managed to creep out alone to the cliff churchyard before all was dark, and there, with her head buried in her hands, she prayed earnestly that she had done right in the sacrifice that she had made.

Life to poor Maida seemed intolerably lonely when Fred had gone. The prospect became the desolation of despair. She could not understand how, in the summer-time, strangers could come down and praise the beauty of this corner of the land when for her the light of it had gone out for ever. She fancied she would sooner have been a household drudge in a back street in London, sooner have inhabited one of those dull deplorable dwellings that we pass on the railway among the chimney-pots when we arrive home, our holiday over, than living here, with the same monotonous day before and the same intolerable night behind, a life of silence in a land of perpetual rest.

She had heard several times from Fred, and he was doing well; better by far than he could have expected. Fired with the excitement of a new life, animated by the eagerness of a fresh country, he wrote with all the enthusiasm of a convert. Like a man, he thought mainly of himself and too little of her. Sidestrand, Overstrand, the village farm, the lonely tower, were all merged in one rush of new excitement and one feverish hunger for money-making. The old country, with its beauty and its peace, was forgotten in the new land with its freshness and novelty. He was fighting bravely with adversity and conquering it, deep in the mysteries of stock, and cattle, and produce; combating swindlers in an atmosphere of good and bad, religious and infidel, temperance and drunkenness. Whilst she, the quiet village daughter of a Norfolk farmer, was simply praying for the man she loved as she stood, day after day, at the cliff's edge and beheld the unknown country behind the horizon, far away in immeasurable distance.

At last the moment came. The letters from abroad were so cheerful and full of hope; the life at home so hopelessly monotonous. The chatter of the village, the combats between the various relations, the wooden regularity of the conventional clergyman, the dull sermons, the stereotyped charity, the long dull distance between harvest homes and Christmas suppers, became so oppressive that Maida summoned up courage for her great resolve.

In the dreary mist of one autumn evening she slipped away from home, and dropped a letter in the red post-box let into the ancestral lichened wall of a farm-house that had stood there for centuries. What a strange contrast, the old farm-buildings and the modern post-box! In a field not a dozen yards off they are ploughing with the same implement described in the

"Georgics" of Virgil. Here we have the machinery of the modern post office introduced to the old-world village. Still for all that, down went the letter into the post-box. And the rustic carrier, whose sole success in life was a stereotyped grin and a power of growing cabbages for the local flower show, one fine day whipped up his docile pony and helped to conduct a brief letter from Sidestrand to California, containing the four precious words:—

"Come back to me!"

All these thoughts, all this drama of life, all these hopes, these fears, these anxieties, flashed through Maida's brain as she, on this Christmas night, with the old shawl drawn tightly over her head, hurried after the villagers on their way to the wreck. What did they know or care for her life's story? What could they conceive of the loneliness of her inner life? She smiled at them over the hedge. She was a good daughter and a pattern housekeeper. She could cook, and darn, and clean, and organise. She had a kind heart for all who were in trouble, and had a sharp tongue for any who dared impose on her. But who should know that she had fallen in love with a village scamp, and had never been really at peace since he had left her native home?

When Maida arrived on the old church cliffs the life-boat men and the many willing hands from the village had managed to drag the rocket apparatus down the winding path, and had placed it in a fair position to throw a good line over the masts of the sinking ship.

It was an awful night, and the girl could scarcely stand as she approached nearer and nearer to the cliff's edge. Blinding gusts of wind scattered the sand and spray into her face as she groped her way, in the pitch darkness, to the path that, in the summer-time, she knew so well. The tempest roared and bellowed louder than ever round the grey church tower, standing solitary and unprotected in the forgotten graveyard, waiting solemnly for the beaten and broken bodies of the poor drowned sailors. Maida's father, in virtue of some small parochial office, was the appointed custodian of this pathetic mortuary. It was at his farm that the keys were kept that could alone unlock this grim chamber of the dead; and to him the fishermen and sailors would invariably come whenever there was a wreck on this stormy and unprotected coast. Sailors from all nations found their last resting-place in a quiet, green corner of this old churchyard, despised by the villagers as worthless and old-fashioned, but still a "God's acre" for all that, and a hospitable home for the friendless stranger. It was not exactly known in the village who was or was not buried there. For instance, a foreign ship was once wrecked on the coast, and only five bodies were washed up out of the ship's complement of six. The gravestone placed over those who were found fully recorded the names of all who started from some North Sea port. Presumably they were all dead, but one of them was never found. But where was the sixth? Identification of any of the foreign sailors was impossible. Five men lay dead under the turf; but where was the sixth? And, more wonderful still, who was the sixth out of the original crew that sailed from home? There is the weaving of a strange romance out of that grim record, is there not?

Maida's father had evidently been on the cliff before her. The door of the old tower was unlocked. He was away down cliff with the men.

A strange infatuation led her to follow him. She appeared to be no longer mistress of her own actions. She was walking as in a dream, impelled forward by some horrible destiny. The women at the cliff's edge implored her to keep back. It was no place for her down there with the dead and dying. Down below them, on an eminence commanding the beach, they could hear the sudden hiss of the rocket, and a flash of light illumined the pale faces of the sailors clinging to the mast. Brave cheers from shore were feebly answered by the drowning men. At last came a good cast. The saving rope was grasped by one of the terror-stricken sailors and was made fast to the mast. One of the brave lads from Sidestrand was the first to venture out to the assistance of the poor fellows, and a roar of applause came from the men on shore when it was found that the business of saving life had begun.

By this time Maida was well down cliff, and so wild and impetuous was the girl that the sailors allowed her to do her proper woman's work in attempting to restore the exhausted sailors as they were brought one by one across the treacherous rope. It was her lap on which their wet heads rested when they reached the land. It was her hand that poured the brandy down their throats, the lantern being held by some old man of the village too feeble to work the rocket, but with useful experience in the art of saving life.

Maida's father, who had taken an active part in commanding the men, was fully occupied, as one after the other some fresh body was brought on shore. At last it was seen that the majority of the crew had not waited for the firing of the rocket, and, terrified at the prospect of being drowned on the sinking ship, had flung themselves into the sea and trusted to the waves to cast them upon shore. The majority of them were dead before they reached the land, and in nearly every case were not recognisable, so cruelly had they been beaten about by the waves and rocks in their struggle to reach the land. Now that all who were on deck had been rescued, and the sea gave up nothing but dead, Maida had been gently persuaded to go up cliff again. Her woman's work was ended: she could do no more.

As these unfortunate fellows came up cliff, borne in the men's arms reverently, and their poor faces covered with some article of clothing, a girl's kerchief or a woman's apron, it was noticed that Maida was exercised with a fascinating curiosity. As each of the drowned sailors was being taken to the tower, she would creep by the side of the bearers, and gently lift the slight covering that hid the features of the dead.

Those who were rescued had been taken to the various cottages of the Sidestrand sailors. The last of the dreary procession of the drowned was coming up cliff, and Maida, who had been told that all that could be had been done, was wending her way to the tower, where the bodies lay, when she saw the gleam of lanterns, and, by their light, her father walking slowly by the side of a dead sailor.

In an instant she turned and rushed back down the path to meet her father.

Directly he saw her, he waved her away.

"Keep the girl back," he said; "for God's sake, keep her back!"

On went the sad procession to the tower, the girl crying and imploring the sailors to allow her to join her father. This last dead sailor, like the rest, was borne along with covered face.

When they reached the tower the old farmer and the sailors took their sad burden inside.

"Don't let the girl come in," he muttered to one of the men.

When they had reverently performed their last sad office, the father of the distracted girl closed the door behind him, and deliberately locked it. No one could enter the tower now.

Maida broke away from her captors, and stood at her



NO ADMITTANCE—
DRAWN BY LUCIEN DAVIS.



WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will (dated May 22, 1885) of Mr. John Walker, late of Arnos Grove, Southgate, Middlesex, who died on Aug. 14 last, was proved on the 10th ult. by Frederic Walker, Vyell Edward Walker, Russell Donnithorne Walker, and Isaac Donnithorne Walker, the brothers, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £463,000. The testator leaves his mansion-house, park, and lands, Arnos Grove, and the Arnos Grove estate, in the counties of Middlesex and Herts, including the Minchenden estate and the Beaver Hall estate, to his brother Frederic; £15,000 to each of his sisters, Mrs. Baird, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Rashleigh, Mrs. Bradshaw, and Mrs. Luck; his estate and interest in the Limehouse Brewery, carried on by him in partnership, under the style or firm of Taylor, Walker, and Co., and in the capital, goodwill, credits, public-houses, and other property, to his four brothers, Frederic, Vyell Edward, Russell Donnithorne, and Isaac Donnithorne, in equal shares; and legacies to his brothers-in-law, persons employed at the Limehouse Brewery, servants, and others. The residue of his property he gives to his said brother Frederic.

The Scotch Confirmation, under seal of office of the Commissariat of the county of Edinburgh, of the holograph trust disposition and settlement (dated Dec. 15, 1883), of Mr. Francis Brown-Douglas, of No. 21, Moray-place, Edinburgh, who died at Melville, near Ladybank, Fife, on Aug. 8 last, granted to Mrs. Marianne Leslie Melville, or Brown-Douglas, the widow, Francis Archibald Brown-Douglas, and Charles Christie Brown-Douglas, the sons, Alexander Leslie Melville, and Arthur Leslie Melville, the executors nominate, was sealed in London on the 25th ult., the value of the personal estate in England and Scotland amounting to upwards of £170,000.

The will (dated Dec. 23, 1881), with a codicil (dated July 18, 1884), of Mr. Henry Aste, late of Castle Hill Lodge, Norwood, who died on June 5 last, was proved on the 10th ult., by John Aste, Alfred Aste, and William Aste, the sons, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £146,000. The testator makes various gifts of freehold house property, of stocks and shares, and of cash, to and upon trust for each of his daughters, Harriet, Emma, Sarah, Fanny Caroline, Ellen, and Alice Jane, and there are other special provisions for their benefit; there are also specific gifts to each of his three sons, and legacies to grand-children, nieces, clerks, and servants. He bequeaths £500 to the Corn Exchange Benevolent Institution, if he has not in his lifetime given a like amount in one sum in aid of such institution; £200 to University College Hospital; £100 each to the St. Pancras Female Charity School, St. Pancras Almshouses, the North London Consumption Hospital, the National Benevolent Institution, the Religious Tract Society, the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney; the Asylum for Idiots, Earlswood; and the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead; and £20 to the Margate Sea Bathing Infirmary. The ultimate residue of his property he gives to his three sons.

The will (dated March 17, 1883) of Mr. Charles Corkran, late of Long Ditton, Surrey, who died on Sept. 9 last, was proved on the 23rd ult. by Colonel Charles Seymour Corkran, the son, one of the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £98,000. The testator gives legacies to his sister and nieces, and all his real estate and the residue of the personalty to his said son.

The Irish Probate, granted at Dublin, of the will (dated Sept. 20, 1881) of Mr. Joseph Garratt, late of Glenvar, Blackrock, county Dublin, who died on July 24 last, at Greystones, county Wicklow, to Mrs. Harriet Garratt, the widow, William Arthur Garratt and Joseph Henry Garratt, the sons, and Hunt Walsh Hardmore, the executors, was resealed in London on the 23rd ult., the aggregate personal estate in England and Ireland amounting to upwards of £64,000. The testator leaves his residence, Glenvar, to his wife, for life, and then to his son William; Purbeck Lodge, and all the furniture and effects, horses and carriages, at Glenvar, to his wife; his share in his partnership business and in the capital and stock-in-trade to his said sons, William Arthur and Joseph Henry, subject to the payment thereof of £1500 per annum to his wife, for life. Special legacies are given, upon trust, for his daughters, and the residue of his real and personal estate is to be held, upon trust, for his wife, for life, and then for his said two sons and for his four daughters, in equal shares. The provision made for his wife is declared to be in addition to that made for her by settlement.

The will (dated Feb. 19, 1879) of Mr. Richard Thornton, late of The Hoo, Sydenham-hill, who died on Oct. 17 last, was proved on the 18th ult. by Mrs. Mary Thornton, the widow, Robert Thornton, the brother, and Richard John Bowerman, the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £30,000. The testator bequeaths £1000 and his plate, furniture, pictures, effects, carriages, horses, and dogs to his wife; and £500 to each of his executors. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves, in trust, for his wife, for life or widowhood, and then for all his children, in equal shares.

The will (dated May 27, 1879), with a codicil (dated Aug. 5, 1885), of Mr. Joseph Alcock, late of Port Hill, Wolstanton, Staffordshire, who died on Sept. 11 last, was proved on the 21st ult. by Mrs. Mary Maclean Alcock, the widow, and Henry Alcock, John Alcock, and Empson Alcock, the sons, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £28,000. The testator gives £1000 to his wife, and his residence, Port Hill, with the furniture and effects and £1000 per annum to her, for life or widowhood; and he bequeaths legacies to his children, grandchildren, coachman, and gardener. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves to all his children, in equal shares.

The will (dated April 21, 1883), with a codicil (dated Feb. 8, 1884), of Donald Cameron, LL.D., late of No. 2, Portland-place, Torquay, who died on Oct. 20 last, was proved on the 25th ult. by John Cameron, the son, and John Cameron, M.D., the brother, two of the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £28,000. The testator leaves £300 to his wife, Mrs. Emily Cameron; and the residue of his real and personal estate to her, for life, and then in trust for all his children, in equal shares.

The proceeds of the concert given by Mr. Peacock at the Royal Albert Hall amounted to £1057, which sum has been handed to the Sisters of Nazareth towards their building fund.

At a congregation of the University of Cambridge, held on the 10th, a new statute was adopted empowering the University to adopt as an affiliated college, on certain conditions, any institution in the United Kingdom or British dominions founded for the education of adult students.

NO ADMITTANCE—EXCEPT ON BUSINESS.

The creature that persists in seeking entrance into a private house, where its presence is not wanted by the inmates, must be a goose. So thinks the little girl, fending off the intruder with her large umbrella, while her dog has evidently made up his mind that the goose shall not come in. The time will arrive, when the goose, in a different condition, not strutting up to the door, hissing and gabbling, but stripped of its feathers and laid in a basket, shall gain welcome admittance on business—the poulterer's business—to the satisfaction of the cook, and, ultimately, of the family and guests at the Christmas dinner-table. It is likely that the young lady and her dog will agree in their just approval of the final arrangement; in fact, we see them, in the Artist's second drawing, a few minutes before the appointed hour for dinner, contemplating what is on the table, in a very complacent mood. Alexander Pope's couplet is recalled to our memory:

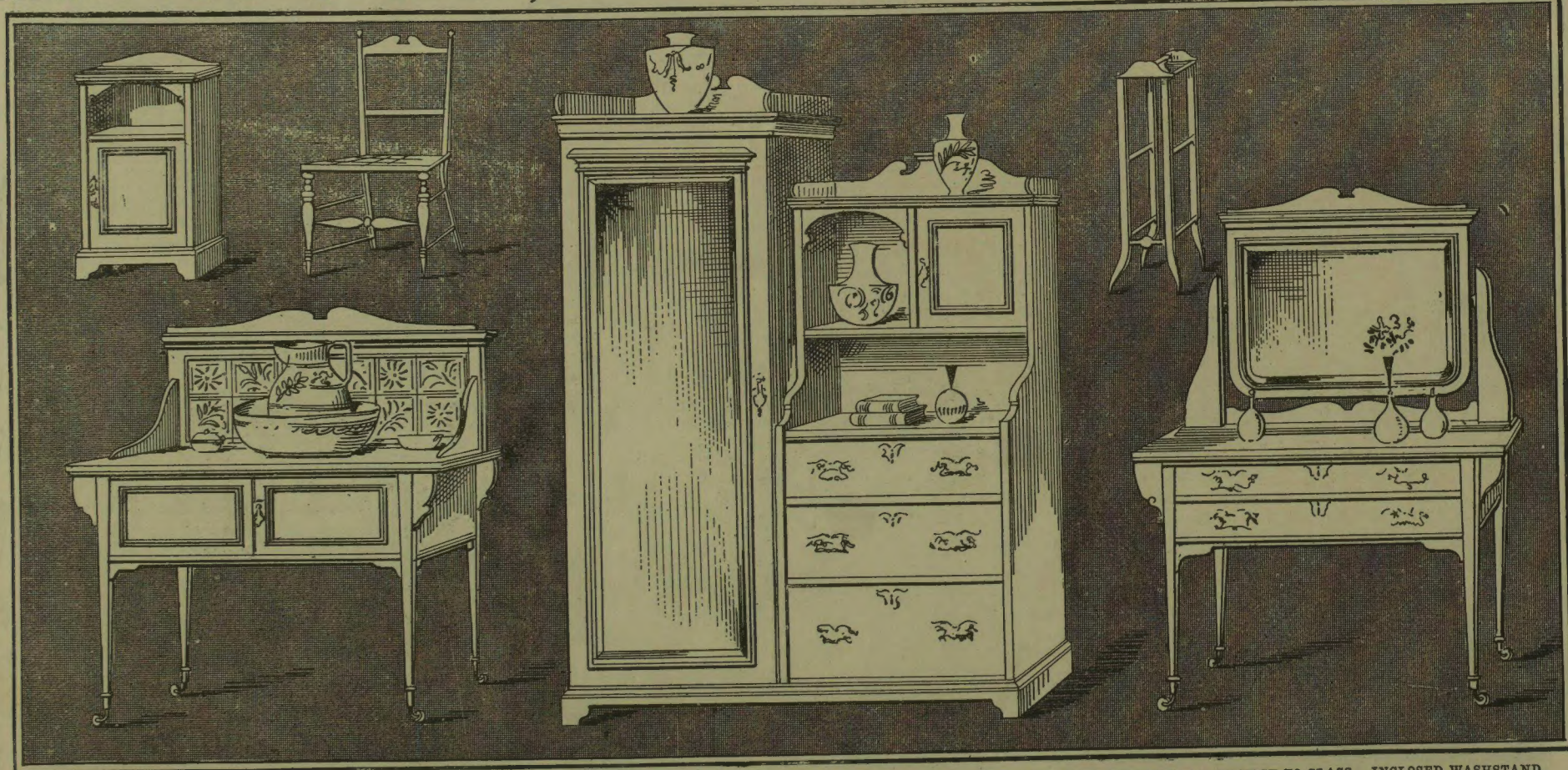
While Man exclaims, "See, all things for my use!"
"See, Man for mine!" replies a pampered Goose.

But it is the human palate and stomach that gets the better allowance in the end; and that is the business for which the bird is finally admitted.

In a Parliamentary return giving the cost of the last two expeditions to Souakim, it is stated that the total outlay on the railway, including the water supply pipes, was £865,369.

The third and probably last contribution by Dr. Schliemann to the history of the excavated cities of Greece is now before us, in his admirably planned and executed *Tiryns* (John Murray). It is no small praise to say that it in many respects is more perfect than were its predecessors, "Ilion" and "Mykenæ"; and what more specially redounds to Dr. Schliemann's praise is that the valuable discoveries which this volume explains were made on a spot where previous writers had unhesitatingly declared that no prehistoric remains were likely to be unearthed. Dr. Schliemann thought otherwise, and, luckily, to support his views, a more than usually rich reward attended his labours. The palace at Tiryns (fortunately for us) had been destroyed by fire; and, the roof having fallen in, the massive Cyclopean substructure was preserved with marvellous completeness. By Dr. Dörpfeld's plan—one of the most important features of this book—we can trace clearly every detail of the pre-Homeric dwelling—a type which probably survived to a much later period. The separate apartments of the men and women, the courtyard, the household altar, and the bath-room have each a recognised place; and the Cyclopean "Gallery," the mystery which has perplexed so many archaeologists, is now regarded by Dr. Dörpfeld as finally unveiled, and shown to have been used as a "sally-port" to an outside platform. The main interest of Dr. Schliemann's volume is architectural; for the discoveries of jewels and pottery at Tiryns were insignificant compared with what had been found at Troy and Mykenæ. The mural paintings, however, as the earliest known work of the kind, are full of interest; and some of the subjects, such as the acrobat performing on the bull's back, is a marvel of realistic treatment, the animal recalling very forcibly the type to be found so frequently on Egyptian sarcophagi. Dr. Schliemann, it should be added, has done both himself and our nation honour in dedicating this valuable work to our distinguished countryman, Mr. James Ferguson.

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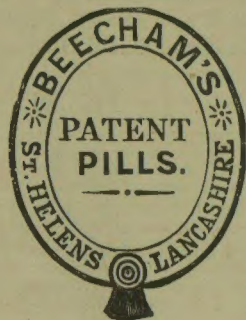
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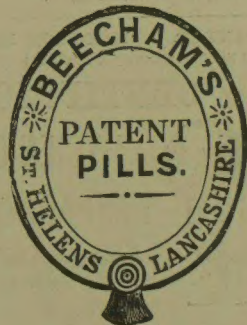
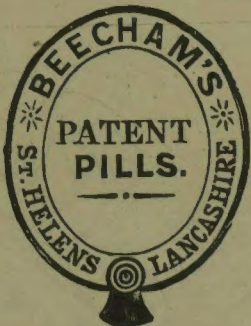
They speedily remove that sense of Oppression and Difficulty of Breathing which nightly deprive the Patient of rest.

Beecham's Cough Pills.

They give almost instant relief and comfort to those afflicted with the above distressing, and, when neglected, dangerous complaints.

Beecham's Cough Pills.

Let any Person troubled with any of the above Complaints give BEECHAM'S COUGH PILLS a trial, and they will act like Magic. The most violent Cough will in a short time be removed.



FULL DIRECTIONS ARE GIVEN WITH EACH BOX.

Prepared by THOMAS BEECHAM, St. Helens, Lancashire; and

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS AND PATENT MEDICINE DEALERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

In Boxes, at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. each.

WHY DRINK INFERIOR TEA? WHY PAY UNNECESSARY INTERMEDIATE PROFITS?

GRASP THIS TRUE AND STARTLING FACT! MAGNIFICENT TEA—the very FINEST and CHOICEST imported from CHINA, INDIA, and CEYLON, carefully selected, the best that money can buy, is supplied by **THE UNITED KINGDOM TEA COMPANY**, 21, Mincing-lane, London, first hand, direct from the Mincing-lane Market, packed in canisters, and delivered at your own doors, anywhere in the kingdom, **carriage paid**. Why buy inferior Tea which has filtrated through some half-dozen hands, and thus **throw away fully one shilling a pound**, swallowed up in intermediate profits?

UNITED KINGDOM TEA COMPANY.

Offices: 21, MINCING-LANE, LONDON, E.C. Duty-Paid Stores: IMPERIAL WAREHOUSE, LEMAN-STREET, LONDON DOCKS.

THIS COMPANY SUPPLY SPLENDID TEA DIRECT FROM THE MINCING-LANE MARKET, EFFECTING A CLEAR SAVING OF ONE SHILLING A POUND.

They have no Agents or Retail Shops, and do not supply less than One Pound.

UNITED KINGDOM TEA COMPANY will forward Samples and Book about Tea, free of charge, on application, and respectfully ask the Public to taste and judge for themselves. They solicit a trial of any of the following Teas from China, India, and Ceylon, blended by machinery at their Duty-Paid Stores, IMPERIAL WAREHOUSE, LEMAN-STREET, LONDON DOCKS,—the advantages derived by being able to procure TEA FIRST HAND will then be apparent:—

No. 1. HOYUNE and ASSAM, sound, sweet, and of good quality ... 1/3 a pound.

No. 2. CONGOU and ASSAM, thoroughly good Tea ... 1/6 "

No. 3. OOPACK and CACHAR ASSAM, of great strength and fine quality 1/9 "

No. 4. Splendid KAISOW and DARJEELING ... TWO SHILLINGS a pound.

This Tea is of exceptional value, and consists of the May pickings, covered with bloom. It has a rich, ripe, mellow flavour, and will give every satisfaction; to judge of its quality it should be compared with what is ordinarily retailed at 3/- a pound and upwards. In families where a quantity of Tea is consumed, a large monetary saving will, in the course of a year, be effected by ordering this Tea.

These Teas, coming direct from the Mincing-lane Market, are BETTER in QUALITY and very considerably LOWER in PRICE than those supplied by any Civil Service or Co-operative Store.

READ THE FOLLOWING PRESS OPINIONS AMONG MANY OTHERS:

The COURT JOURNAL, July 25, 1885:—"A pamphlet issued by the United Kingdom Tea Company, of 21, Mincing-lane, London, should be perused by all tea drinkers. In the work before us an interesting history is given of the tea plant and tea trade, so that housekeepers who are dissatisfied with the quality and price of their tea have only themselves to blame if they do not find the remedy."

The WHITEHALL REVIEW, Aug. 13, 1885:—"The policy of this Company is to supply tea direct from the Mincing lane Market, and thus, avoiding all middlemen, intermediate profits are done away with."

SOCIETY, Aug. 1, 1885:—"It is evidently an immense advantage to be able to procure tea of the best brands direct from the importers, and this can be done by applying to the United Kingdom Tea Company, of 21, Mincing-lane, London, who are in a position to retail the choicest teas at the lowest possible prices. The advantages afforded by the Company are very great, and it is not surprising to hear their business is advancing by leaps and bounds."

TRUTH, Aug. 20, 1885:—"Being a strong believer in the fact that half the tea we drink is spoilt in the making, I feel that I shall be doing all tea-drinking friends a kindness by reproducing the instructions for making tea, which have been drawn up and issued by the United Kingdom Tea Company."

PUBLIC OPINION, Aug. 14, 1885:—"A pure tea is one of those articles which, as a rule, it is hard to obtain, whatever price is paid. The United Kingdom Tea Company have, however, taken the matter in hand, and are offering teas of the most delicate blends from China, India, and Ceylon in quantities of not less than one pound."

In addition to the above, SOME THOUSANDS of LETTERS have been received from the Nobility, County Families, and large consumers of Tea in the United Kingdom, as well as from families of distinction throughout the Continent, expressing high approval of the system of business adopted by this Company, and of the qualities and prices of the Teas supplied.

UNITED KINGDOM TEA COMPANY deliver TEAS in Town and Suburbs, CARRIAGE FREE, and PAY CARRIAGE on 7 lb. and upwards to any address in the Kingdom.

QUANTITIES OF 7 lb., 14 lb., AND 20 lb. ARE PACKED IN CANISTERS FREE OF CHARGE.

All Communications to be addressed to THE SECRETARY,

OFFICES:—21, MINCING-LANE, LONDON, E.C.

SAMPLES AND BOOK ABOUT TEA, POST-FREE ON APPLICATION.

A CHOICE CHRISTMAS PRESENT—A CANISTER OF TEA DIRECT FROM THE MINCING-LANE MARKET!



CARVERS IN CASES, SILVER MOUNTED.

Buckhorn Handles, 1 Pair and Steel, £1 7s.; 2 Pairs and Steel, £1 10s.
Tusk " " " 2 15s.; 2 " " " 4 0s.
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Spoons and Forks, all Patterns, Twenty Years' Wear guaranteed.



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There are THREE KINDS, distinguished from each other by a YELLOW, GREEN, and RED SILK THREAD, attached to stopper. EAU DE SUEZ (YELLOW) instantly removes the most violent Toothache. EAU DE SUEZ (GREEN), used as a daily mouth-wash, prevents for ever the return of pain, arrests decay, and preserves the teeth sound and white. The RED THREAD is used as the Green, but especially adapted for children's use. SUEZ ORANGE TOOTH PASTE, for the removal of tartar and whitening the teeth. Free by parcel post from WILCOX and CO., 239, Oxford-st., London; and through any Chemist. Yellow, 2s. 9d.; Green, 4s.; Red, 3s.; Paste, 4s. 6d.

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THE PUREST, THE MOST PALATABLE, THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, AND THE MOST EFFICACIOUS
IN CONSUMPTION, THROAT AFFECTIONS, AND DEBILITY OF ADULTS AND CHILDREN.

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